

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### TAX INCENTIVES FOR TELECOMMUNICATIONS BUSINESSES

**HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 25, 2003*

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing legislation to provide tax incentives to encourage greater diversity of ownership in telecommunications businesses. My bill is a response to the increasing ownership of television and radio properties by large media companies.

I strongly believe that promoting a diversity of views on the airwaves is an important public policy goal. The only way to accomplish that goal is to broaden the ownership of broadcast stations. The television and radio spectrum is a limited resource. The trend in recent years has been a greater concentration of ownership of that resource by the large media companies. We need to reverse that trend.

Mr. Speaker, small businesses that wish to enter telecommunications businesses face significant barriers. To enter a broadcast business, a small business must purchase an existing property. Owners of those properties find it much easier to sell to large businesses than to small businesses. Therefore, small businesses quite often do not have a seat at the table when there are negotiations over the sale of broadcast properties.

My bill would attempt to reduce those barriers by providing limited deferral of capital gain taxation when a telecommunications property is sold to a small business. It would provide the sellers of those properties a positive incentive to consider a small business purchaser.

Large segments of our society historically have been underrepresented in the ownership of radio and television properties. I believe that it is vital that those groups have access to the television and radio spectrum so that their views may be represented on our airwaves. Therefore, my bill would provide a larger deferral of capital gain taxation when the sale is to a small business owned and controlled by individuals from these historically underrepresented groups.

Mr. Speaker, I understand that some may attack my bill as being the re-enactment of a flawed prior program. The provisions in my bill are quite similar to the tax certificate program that was repealed by the Congress in 1995. I do not quarrel with those who assert that there were abuses in that program. However, it is unfortunate that the Congress chose repeal and not reform because that program had been effective in accomplishing its goal of expanding ownership of radio and television businesses. In 1978, before the implementation of that program, only .05 percent of all broadcast stations in this country were owned by minority groups. By 1994, the year before the program was repealed, the program had succeeded in increasing minority ownership

sixty-fold to 3 percent. Since that program was repealed, the number of minority-owned broadcast properties has declined.

The bill that I am introducing today contains provisions specifically designed to address the abuses in the prior program. It is limited to small business purchasers, it contains restrictions on the number of purchases that can be made by any one business, it contains recapture provisions to prevent the use of the small business as a front for another party, and it contains provisions designed to prevent avoidance of the ownership requirements through options or other sophisticated transactions.

I am hopeful that we can avoid the emotionally charged rhetoric that occurred in 1995 when this issue was last considered. All small businesses, regardless of their ownership, would be eligible for the benefits of my bill. It is true that the bill provides a slightly larger incentive when the small business purchaser is owned and controlled by individuals who are from segments in our society historically underrepresented in ownership of broadcast businesses. I believe this incentive is appropriate so that the views of those groups are heard on our Nation's airwaves. The bill simply attempts to ensure that small businesses, including minority owned small businesses, have a seat at the table when a broadcast property is being sold.

Mr. Speaker, I am hopeful that we will be able to deal with this issue on a bipartisan basis. We should all support the goal of expanding diversity in ownership of broadcast properties. I am pleased that in the past Senator MCCAIN introduced a similar proposal in the Senate. I am hopeful that we can find bipartisan support in the House. Following is a brief description of the provisions of the bill.

### DEATH TAX REPEAL PERMANENCY ACT OF 2003

SPEECH OF

**HON. DENNIS MOORE**

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 18, 2003*

Mr. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to H.R. 8, Permanent Death Tax Repeal Act and in support of the Democratic substitute.

I have long been a supporter of providing estate tax relief to American families, small business owners, and farmers who have worked their entire lives to transfer a portion of their estates upon their death. I have also been an advocate, however, for ensuring that we transfer to our children and grandchildren a healthy economy and a government that maintains its commitment to Social Security and Medicare.

In the last Congress, I voted to repeal the estate tax and later voted to override President Clinton's veto of that legislation. Again, in the 107th Congress, I voted to repeal the estate tax as a stand-alone measure and later

voted for President Bush's \$1.35 trillion tax cut, which contained a provision to phase out and ultimately repeal the estate tax.

When I voted for the president's tax bill last year, I did so with his assurance that we would have the money to pay for it without dipping into the Social Security surplus. Unfortunately, due to the recession and the war on terrorism, the budget surpluses projected last year did not materialize and we are now borrowing money from Social Security Trust Funds to pay for even our most basic needs including the war on terrorism.

While I agree that we should fix provisions of last year's tax cut to increase certainty in the tax code that will help people plan for their financial future, we should also make sure that we are not borrowing money—particularly from the Social Security Trust Funds—to pay for these cuts while we are simultaneously trying to enhance our national security needs. We should also ensure that we aren't raising other taxes to pay for provisions that are, quite frankly, political in nature and have nothing to do with ensuring that the estate tax burden is reduced on our small businesses and farms.

For example, Mr. Speaker, the underlying bill contains a hidden tax on all decedents. By fully repealing the estate tax, this bill would have the effect of repealing a provision in the code, referred to as the "step up in basis," that protects heirs from paying capital gains on estates.

Anyone who has ever sold a "capital" asset, such as real estate, stocks, bonds, mutual funds, knows that cost basis is what the gain or loss on the sales price is measured against. Generally speaking, cost basis is the purchase price of property subject to certain adjustments upward or downward. For example, if property was purchased in 1950 at a cost of \$10,000 and sold in 2001 at \$100,000, an individual would have a taxable capital gain of \$90,000. The step-up basis interacts with estates such that when this property passes by reason of death, the heir inherits the asset with a new cost basis equivalent to the market value of the asset on the date of the benefactor's death. Taking the example above, if the property were transferred in 2001 at a value of \$100,000 and the heir sold the property in 2006 for \$120,000, the heir would only have a taxable capital gain of \$20,000 instead of \$110,000.

Should this bill become law, an owner of farmland, stocks, mutual funds, or even a personal residence would have lost the opportunity to pass the asset to the next generation without passing along the owner's cost basis, thus reducing the future capital gains bill that will have to be paid when the heirs sell the asset. In short, this amounts to a tax increase on all estates due simply to the increased cost basis of the estate.

I believe there is a more responsible way to provide estate tax relief to our small business owners and farmers. The substitute will provide substantial and immediate relief by increasing a family's exclusion from \$1 million to \$6 million. It would also preserve the step-up

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

basis provisions in current law so heirs to an estate do not receive a large capital gains bill as they would if Congress repealed the estate tax entirely. All of these changes would take place immediately. The Treasury Department estimates that increasing the estate credit to \$6 million would exempt approximately 99 percent of all estates without the dramatic loss in revenues.

Mr. Speaker, the substitute is also paid for. In this environment when our budget is in crisis, it is critically important that we do not continue to drown ourselves in red ink. The majority's bill would cost over \$60 billion a year, at a time when we are running a \$400 billion annual deficit. We simply cannot afford to borrow even more money to provide additional tax cuts.

Again, I have supported previous efforts to provide estate tax relief because, in the past, we have been able to afford it. I am concerned, however, that the total costs of these bills will continue to drive our nation into debt, and reduce our ability to deal with the long-term challenges facing Social Security and Medicare. Until we deal with the long term financial problems facing Social Security, we need to be very careful about any tax or spending bills that would place a greater burden on the budget in the next decade, effectively transferring these costs and burdens to our children and grandchildren.

A SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO  
ESPERANZA ON THE OCCASION  
OF THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY  
CELEBRATION

**HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 25, 2003*

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to pay special tribute to an outstanding organization in Ohio. Esperanza, Ohio's only non-profit association dedicated to the promotion and advancement of education for Hispanics, has been serving the Hispanic community in Northeastern Ohio since 1983.

Over the duration of the last twenty years, Esperanza has become a vital asset to the Hispanic population in Ohio, aiding thousands of Hispanic youth with educational programming, tutoring, mentoring, college and career guidance, and scholarship opportunities for students pursuing higher educational opportunities.

Esperanza conducts programs for Cleveland youth in elementary, middle and high school. Furthermore, Esperanza offers a complimentary, instructional computer program to neighborhood residents. The fully equipped Community Technology Center provides individualized training sessions in keyboarding, data entry, Microsoft Office, Windows, and the Internet to Hispanics of all ages.

Esperanza's competitive scholarship program offers an annual process that is available to all Hispanic students residing in Northeastern Ohio. In 2002, with the aid of various corporations, educational institutions and individual donors, Esperanza was able to reward forty-seven Hispanic students with scholarships at the annual Fiesta of Hope Scholarship Luncheon.

NASA Glenn Research Center and Dr. Michael Schwartz, President of Cleveland State University, will co-chair this year's Fiesta of Hope Scholarship Luncheon.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in paying special tribute to Esperanza on occasion of the 20th anniversary celebration. Our communities are served well by having such honorable and philanthropic organizations, like Esperanza, who genuinely care about the well-being of Northeastern Ohio's Hispanic community.

REMEMBERING THE CONTRIBUTION  
AND LIFE OF GEORGE  
THOMAS "MICKEY" LELAND

**HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 25, 2003*

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, today, as we consider a resolution recognizing the work of our late colleague in the alleviation of hunger, I would like to honor George Thomas "Mickey" Leland for his contributions to this country and the world. He may have been the greatest advocate for the hungry that the House of Representatives has ever known. Mickey was born on November 27, 1944, in Lubbock, Texas. From 1972, when he was first elected into public office, until his death in 1989, Mickey Leland fought on behalf of the hungry, poor and less fortunate around the world. Neither partisanship nor race nor political boundaries prevented Mickey from reaching those who needed him. Republicans and Democrats alike respected Mickey for his determination and moral rectitude. I urge my friends and colleagues in this chamber to honor Mickey's memory by rededicating ourselves to eradicating world hunger and the poverty which is its cause.

In 1984, Leland co-authored legislation creating the House Select Committee on Hunger. It was the Committee's responsibility to focus solely on the widespread problems of hunger and malnutrition. Mickey chaired the Committee from its inception until his death. The Committee's efficacy stemmed from his unwavering moral leadership. He legislated on infant mortality, fresh food for at-risk women and children, and comprehensive services for the homeless. Mickey Leland refused to narrow the scope of his energy and dedication to his own country. Following reports of famine in sub-Saharan Africa, Speaker "Tip" O'Neil appointed Leland to lead a bipartisan Congressional delegation created to assess the magnitude of Africa's needs. The findings of that delegation resulted in \$800 million in humanitarian relief.

In his pursuit to help the needy, Mickey traveled around the world. He met with Fidel Castro to reunite Cuban families and traveled to Moscow as part of joint U.S.-Soviet food initiative to Mozambique following the Cold War. He met privately with Pope John Paul II in 1987 and 1989 to garner support for his efforts in Africa. Mickey did everything he could. Those of us who were privileged to serve with him in this Congress were always inspired and challenged by Mickey to do more to alleviate the suffering of the people whom Jesus called "the least of these."

Mickey died just as he lived, trying to help. He never passed leadership to others when

he could infuse a project with his warmth and energy. Mickey was leading a mission to a refugee camp in Ethiopia when his plane crashed, killing him and 15 others. Mickey died on August 7, 1989, near Gambela, Ethiopia.

DEATH TAX REPEAL  
PERMANENCY ACT OF 2003

SPEECH OF

**HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 18, 2003*

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong opposition to H.R. 8 and in support of the Pomeroy substitute. The House Republican leadership and President Bush are once again putting the interests of the Bush class ahead of the needs of working families and our future well being. They are once again demonstrating that they have the wrong priorities.

Providing tax relief for low wage hard working families remains a low priority for House Republicans and the Bush Administration. Instead, they want to once again provide even more tax breaks for people who need it the least by eliminating that inheritance tax. Republicans are denying immediate assistance to 12 million children who come from families that earn between \$10,500 to \$26 a year, and where one million of the children have parents that currently serve or have served in the military. Nearly 674,000 children or one in four children back in my home state of Illinois would have qualified for this aid. This is an outrage. Talk about having your priorities backwards!

Proponents of this legislation make baseless claims that it will help small businesses, farmers and working families. The claim that the estate tax puts small family farms out of business. The National Farmers Union disputes this assertion, "There is no evidence that the estate tax has forced the liquidation of any farms, and existing estate tax already exempt 98 percent of all farms and ranches." The fact is that the estate tax currently affects only the richest 2 percent of estates, and the number dramatically shrinks as the exemption rises to \$3.5 million in 2009. H.R. 8 eliminates the tax on the wealthiest 2 percent of all Americans—people like Bill Gates and Ken Lay. In my home state of Illinois less than 2500 families would benefit from the repeal of the estate tax. The rest of the public would not benefit from it at all. In fact, it will hurt their future and further damage our struggling Bush economy, where 2.7 million private sector jobs have been lost.

H.R. 8 will hurt our economic future because it would add at least an additional trillion dollars to the federal deficit over the next twenty years. The vast majority of Americans will have to make sacrifices to pay for this tax cut for millionaires. If this bill is enacted into law there will be less money available for Social Security, Medicare, and prescription drugs for seniors, not to mention homeland security and education. Mr. Speaker, how can it be that we do not have money to fund the Leave No Child Behind Act but we do have money to give more tax cuts for the super rich? How can this be?

Let me be clear. I am a strong supporter of small businesses and family farms and I am not against reforming the estate tax. I believe that families with modest assets should be exempt from the estate tax. That is why I support the Pomeroy substitute which exempts estates worth less than \$3 million for an individual and \$6 million for families from the estate taxes. The substitute would exempt 99.65 percent of all estates.

The Bush Administration and their Republican colleagues have a one track mind. They are once again attempting to lower taxes for the richest 1%. Just last month the Bush Administration and leaders in Congress passed tax cuts for millionaires and tax dodging corporations. President Bush made it a top priority and Vice President CHENEY personally negotiated the final bill language with the Republican Congressional leadership. The tax bill passed last month will provide a \$604,000 tax break for Vice President CHENEY and \$332,000 to Treasury Secretary John Snow. In total, it could provide up to \$3.2 million in total tax savings for President Bush, Vice President CHENEY, and the Cabinet. I wonder how much the families of President Bush, Vice President CHENEY, and the Cabinet would benefit from repeal of the estate tax?

H.R. 8 undermines our basic sense of fairness. The legislation undermines progressive aspects of our tax code. It replaces it with a regressive tax code that puts more of a burden on middle and low wage families. A regressive tax code restricts opportunities for those who are not born into wealthy families. William Gates Sr., a supporter of the estate tax recently said, "What makes America great is the broad ownership of property and enterprise. We all succeed to the extent that children are born without vast disparities in access to education, health care, and opportunity. We are weakened when our policy makers are more concerned with preserving existing wealth and power than creating avenues for new asset creation and opportunity." I couldn't agree with him more.

Finally, the estate tax gives wealthy individuals an incentive to contribute to charity. Charitable organizations are very concerned about efforts to repeal the estate tax. According to the Joint Economic Committee Democrats, eliminating the estate tax could reduce contributions by 6 to 12 percent. This would reduce revenues for soup kitchens, AIDS prevention programs, and other vital community organizations that rely on charitable contributions to stay afloat.

Support America's families. Oppose the underlying bill and support the Pomeroy substitute.

#### TRIBUTE UPON RETIREMENT OF PAUL POGORZELSKI

**HON. JAMES P. MORAN**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 25, 2003*

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Paul Pogorzelski of Falls Church who is being honored by We United States Navy tomorrow for his 42 years of Federal service. But his abiding love of country and honor of service actually began at the young age of 12 when Paul joined the Civil

Defense as a messenger with the 72nd Precinct in Brooklyn, New York.

In 1956, Paul enlisted in the Coast Guard. Upon promotion, he was assigned to the Marshall Island Ioran station, and was responsible for the operation, maintenance and communication of Ioran equipment. After his return to the United States, he was an instructor of electronics in Connecticut. In 1960, he was honorably discharged with a good conduct medal.

He first came to Washington in the early 1960s representing Raytheon and General Electric on the TARTAR radar missile program. Paul then received a political appointment from Undersecretary Vance to the Naval Ordnance Command, working on patrol gunboat missile systems, Antelope and Ready; the Hydrofoil program; R&D and introduction of the frigate program; guided projectile program between NAVSEA and the Army at the Picatinny Arsenal in New Jersey; the readiness of all Navy ships improving their readiness through the CASREP program. He also traveled to Holland to purchase the forerunner of the MK-92 fire control system.

As an intelligence liaison officer at NAVSEA, Paul handled special projects including nuclear powered submarines. He provided survivability assessments for SEA-05, SEA-08, and the PEOs. As facilities manager he engineered and built sensitive, compartmented information facilities both in Crystal City and the Washington Navy Yard, and established interconnectivity with the intelligence community.

Paul has received numerous awards and citations for his efforts in providing the Command with accurate and timely intelligence information regarding the survivability and vulnerability of our ships that were hit by foreign weapons, such as the USS *Stark*, USS *Samuel B. Roberts*, USS *Bridgetown*, USS *Princeton*, and USS *Cole*.

Our Nation is privileged to have had such a dedicated civil servant for these many years. I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring him today for his lifetime commitment of outstanding service to this Nation.

#### HONORING TED CONNORS

**HON. JEB BRADLEY**

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 25, 2003*

Mr. BRADLEY of New Hampshire. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ted Connors upon his retirement from the position of Executive Director of the Portsmouth Housing Authority after 35 years of service.

The son of the city's first night-shift police officer, Ted Connors grew up in Portsmouth, New Hampshire, known as "the City of the Open Door". Ted witnessed Portsmouth change over the years from a rough-and-tumble military town into the tourist and business center it is today. This native brought a valuable hometown boy's point of view to his position.

Ted displayed an inspirational devotion to improving the quality of life for residents in his hometown. His top priority was to expand work-force housing in the region in support of the growing number of local employees being driven out of the city due to increasing hous-

ing costs. His commendable efforts led to a significant increase in the number of subsidized apartments, from 200 to 1,200.

In addition to subsidized housing, Ted instigated numerous other services for the city of Portsmouth. He developed a transportation system that supplies 120,000 rides a year for elderly persons needing to travel to medical appointments, various shopping complexes, or centers for meals. Ted also oversaw the development and completion of a new Senior Citizen's Center in October 2000, which offers various programs such as basic health care, transportation, daily lunches and social activities.

Without Ted's commitment to improving the quality of life for its residents, Portsmouth would not be the city it is today. His efforts to make New Hampshire a better place have made a lasting impact on the people that know him and know of him. Even Ted's successor has admitted that no one can truly fill the retiring director's shoes. Portsmouth and the state of New Hampshire are fortunate to have dedicated individuals like Ted working to make this city and this state a great place to live.

#### IN MEMORY OF THE HONORABLE BOB STUMP

**HON. SILVESTRE REYES**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 25, 2003*

Mr. REYES. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I reflect today on the passing of my dear friend Congressman Bob Stump. Bob was a great man and I am deeply saddened by his passing. He was a great American, a respected legislator, and a good friend.

He served with great distinction in Congress for twenty-six years, two years as Chairman of the House Armed Services Committee and six years as Chairman of the Veterans Affairs Committee.

I had the honor and privilege to serve on both of these committees with Bob as my Chairman. Although we did not always see eye to eye, I always had a great deal of respect for Bob's patriotism and leadership. Bob was a true supporter of men and women in uniform. Under his leadership, we made huge strides to improve the quality of life for our troops and veterans, increasing pay, housing, and healthcare allowances, increasing assistance to disabled veterans and their survivors, and strengthening the Montgomery GI Bill to help millions of veterans fulfill their educational and career goals.

Bob was a modest and decent man who, in dedicating the majority of his life to public service, was a dedicated patriot and a true American Hero. Bob's enthusiasm and spirit touched the lives of all who had the pleasure of meeting him. Although his presence is greatly missed in the halls of the House, I know that Bob is and will be well remembered.

My thoughts and prayers are with the Stump family and with everyone else who loved and admired him.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

CBC SPECIAL ORDER ON  
AFFIRMATIVE ACTION**HON. BARBARA LEE**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 25, 2003*

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank our CBC Chairman, ELIJAH CUMMINGS, for holding this special order. I wish to contribute this evening by inserting into the RECORD the following speech which I delivered on Monday June 23, 2003 at the Rainbow Push Coalition and the Citizen Education Fund's Women's Luncheon in Chicago.

Thank you very much for that kind introduction and thank you for inviting me here today. I want to acknowledge and thank Reverend Jesse Jackson for staying the course, for continuing to speak truth to power and for your friendship and support throughout the years. I want to thank you for the act of courage Award presented to me last year in Los Angeles. Believe me, the inspiration and encouragement that I have received from you during very difficult and challenging times has given me strength.

Reverend Barrons, your guidance spirit and commitment has touched my life. To Mrs. Jacqueline Jackson, thank you for your leadership and for being an exemplary role model for women. You are our first lady and we are so proud.

To the entire Rainbow PUSH family, your commitment to work for justice and peace has shown the world "a better way." You continue to fight to make the American dream a reality, not just for the select few but for "all God's children."

I also want to acknowledge the many elected officials, members of the clergy, and community leaders, and phenomenal women here today and to acknowledge everyone who is part of the struggle to compel our nation to live up to its own promises of liberty and justice for all. And in the memory of our fallen hero Mayor Maynard Jackson, let us rededicate ourselves to our work for political, social and economic justice.

Today, the Supreme Court issued a decision on a monumental affirmative action case. This morning the Supreme Court rejected the Bush Administration's efforts to eliminate affirmative action as we know it.

I say monumental because this judgment will echo far beyond the boundaries of the University of Michigan and far beyond the realm of higher education.

We are still studying the Court's ruling to understand its ramifications; however, the Supreme Court did uphold affirmative action and that is a clear defeat for the Bush Administration. This decision is a testament to the broad mobilization to defend civil rights, it validates the "power of the people" and the legality of affirmative action and requires us to be vigilant as we move forward.

Many of you, including myself, are proud products of affirmative action. We are duty-bound to protect it.

This is one of the most important civil rights cases in the last quarter century. Affirmative action is still necessary, not just in the interests of people of color, but in the interests of women and country as a whole.

What was at stake here is the University of Michigan's attempts to create a classroom that reflects the diversity of this country as well as its persistent economic inequalities.

What is also on trial here is the principle of affirmative action, and in this case the Bush Administration weighed in on the side of reversing progress rather than pursuing justice.

Along with Reverend Jackson, and many others, I was at the Supreme Court the day when this case was heard. I was very proud to speak to the thousands and thousands of young people led by the Michigan students and BAM who had come to Washington from all over the country to protest the effort to eliminate affirmative action.

Believe me, I see a new sense of energy and involvement by our young people, and as adults we must support their organization efforts. Thank God, they are preparing themselves to take over the world. This victory speaks volumes to their efforts.

I was sitting in the audience when Solicitor General Ted Olson, the Administration's attorney, passionately argued against affirmative action, declaring that the University of Michigan—and by implication all other universities and institutions—should use race-neutral means for its admissions.

I thought how sad it was to witness our own government arguing against the interests of so many of its own people.

I would suggest race-neutral admissions would be fine—just as soon as this becomes a race-neutral country. And not a day sooner.

In upholding the University of Michigan law school's affirmative action program, race will continue to be a critical component in achieving parity and equal opportunity for all. We must be the active watchdogs over this decision and how it is implemented.

I was there when Justice Scalia told the University of Michigan that it had a choice: it could either be an elite, first-rate school or it could lower its standards and pursue racial diversity.

How sinister—and wrong—can you get?

Justice Scalia was, in fact, offering a false dichotomy: in reality, you cannot be a top-flight university without diversity.

While that fact eludes the Bush Administration, it does not escape corporate America, the military, or many members of Congress, all of whom voiced their support for the University of Michigan and the principle of affirmative action.

Sixty-five major businesses, all Fortune 500 companies, submitted a brief as a friend to the court on this case.

These global businesses have annual revenues of over a trillion dollars.

As employers, they are deeply interested in this case because they recognize, and I quote here from their brief, "the existence of racial and ethnic diversity in institutions of higher education is vital to [our] efforts to hire and maintain a diverse workforce, and to employ individuals who have been educated and trained in a diverse environment."

Affirmative action, these corporate giants explained, does not only benefit minorities or the economically disadvantaged: affirmative action benefits everyone by offering cross-cultural experience and understanding.

Without that interaction, they argued, we all suffer, and without such a workforce, these companies will be hard-pressed to compete in the global business environment.

Those same views were echoed by many of the highest ranking retired military officers in this country, including former Chiefs of Staff, former Secretaries of Defense, General Norman Schwarzkopf, and other decorated veterans representing all four service branches.

They wrote the court, "Based on decades of experience, [we] have concluded that a highly qualified, racially diverse officer corps" is "essential to the military's ability to fulfill its principal mission to provide national security."

"Limited race-conscious recruiting and admissions policies" at universities such as Michigan, they continued, is critical to both meeting the security needs of this country and to following through on Harry Truman's

fifty-year old executive directive to end segregation in the military.

Again, these retired military officers, like their business counterparts, stressed that affirmative action is essential to the success of their mission.

Diversity is a critical component of our democracy as well. That is why I joined my congressional colleagues, led by Michigan Congressman John Conyers, ranking member of the Judiciary Committee and long a warrior in the fight for civil rights, in submitting our own amicus brief to the Court.

We asked the Court to recognize the educational and political benefits of diversity; to uphold the use of race as one factor among others that can be considered in government decision-making; and to reaffirm that the role of race in this decision making is not limited to remedying specific instances of identified discrimination.

The fact is we don't have a level playing field in this country.

People of color and women earn less money, own fewer assets, and enjoy less access to the nation's elite institutions. African American unemployment is twice as high as that of whites.

Affirmative action is still necessary, not just in the interests of minorities but in the interests of the country as a whole.

This decision upholds justice, access, and fair play. Let me tell you what has happened in my home state of California.

In California, we have seen the devastating effects of the assault on affirmative action. When I was in the state legislature, I fought tooth and nail against efforts to end affirmative action.

Reverend Jackson and the Rainbow Coalition not only stood with us, they actively opposed Prop 209 by marching, engaging in peaceful protests, and organizing.

All the "street heat" that could be brought to bear, Reverend Jackson helped bring it.

During those years, I was chair of the California Legislature Black Caucus, and we defeated each and every anti-affirmative action legislative measure that then Governor Pete Wilson wanted to sign into law.

But a member of the University of California Board of Regents, and African American, yes, a brother, well, I should say, a black man, Ward Connely, led the ballot initiative to end Affirmative Action.

These efforts resulted in a state constitutional amendment and action by the Board of Regents to end affirmative action on all campuses.

So, while we won in the legislature, misinformation and prejudice helped carry the day at the polls when California voters passed Proposition 209 in 1996.

That initiative eliminated affirmative action programs for women and people of color run by state or local governments in the areas of public employment, contracting, and education.

California and some other states have tried to create alternatives to affirmative action, but these alternatives depend on and reinforce residential segregation and fall short in other ways. They just don't work. Now, very few minority and women owned businesses have state contracts, and very few are employed in key positions.

Alumni legacies—such as those President Bush undoubtedly benefited from when he was admitted to Yale with an exceedingly mediocre academic record, to say the least—combined with emphasis on test scores that favor both white applicants and the economically advantaged are creating campuses that are increasingly segregated.

In California, we are undergoing the re-segregation of our colleges and universities. At many of the top schools in the state, minority enrollment has been cut in half since

Prop 209 passed. Thank God for our historically Black Colleges. Our African American students are now going south benefiting from their excellent education. But what we have learned is that 70 percent of these students do not return to California. What a brain drain we have in California.

Shame on California.

One observer described the process of eliminating affirmative action, at Boalt Hall, the University of California's premiere law school, as "watching justice die."

In looking at the Administration's position on affirmative action, we have to place that particular choice within the larger context of the Bush Administration's class war on America's working families and their policies of rewarding the rich.

This Administration and its allies in Congress are rolling back advances in racial equality, economic opportunity, and gender equity.

First Trent Lott lamented the defeat of Strom Thurmond's white supremacist Dixiecrat Party in 1948.

The Administration may have rushed to disown itself from those remarks, but its policies are taking us back to those days nonetheless.

The Administration is creating massive tax cuts for the rich, but twelve million children of America's working families were left off their master plan for the child tax credit. They did this deliberately. It was not a mistake.

So were single mothers who apparently don't deserve tax credits in the world of George Bush. They also left out over 200,000 military families. What a disgrace.

We have an Administration that preaches leave no child behind, but then wants to gut Head Start and leaves tens of thousands of children on waiting lists instead of in preschool. They want to block grant head start, remove it from the Department of Health and Human Services, put it in the Department of Education and require four year olds to take a literacy test. Their proposal would end head start as we know it.

We have an Administration that would like to privatize both Social Security and Medicare, leaving our parents and grandparents with neither financial security nor real prescription drug coverage.

We have an Administration that is trying to block grant Section 8 housing programs, dismantling Section 8 as we know it.

And we have an Administration that is stripping away our civil liberties, one by one. We must stop Patriot Act II from getting through Congress.

It's an Administration that is wiping out decades of progress on Clean Air and Clean Water, even though asthma, childhood cancer rates, and scores of other health problems associated with pollution are on the rise, especially among people of color. It's an administration that puts our tax dollars into a \$400 billion dollar defense budget to build more missiles, yet cuts after school programs and won't fully fund education.

This is an administration that is launching a similar assault on women's rights.

Look at its attack on Title IX, for example, a program that is featured in this conference. Title IX has opened up opportunities for girls and women on the sports field that have also opened up opportunities in life.

Our beloved, recently deceased Congresswoman Patsy Mink of Hawaii, sponsored Title IX. In honor of her memory and legacy, we must not let this Administration turn back the clock.

Title IX is about banning sex discrimination, pure and simple. And the Bush Administration is trying to wipe out those protec-

tions, just like it's trying to wipe out affirmative action and the Clean Air Act.

This is an administration that wages war abroad while also waging war at home, on the nation's poor, on people of color, on women, on the environment, on seniors, and on working families.

What can we do in the face of these assaults? Fight back! Believe me, we must be vigilant to stop any legislation—illegal legislation that the Republican House and Senate will put forward.

We must take back the House, take back the Senate, and take back the White House in 2004.

To do that, we must educate, organize, mobilize, and vote!

We must register our folks to vote, we must vote and we must demand that our votes be counted. No more stealing elections. Democracy is at a crossroads. We must make democracy real.

Rainbow PUSH represents the very diversity that is under attack. And diversity is a tremendous strength. Use it!

If people tell you their vote doesn't matter, remind them about Florida.

Each and every vote the Supreme Court chooses to count matters. We must demand that they all be counted!

This is a critical moment in history and you have to make it our moment.

I am reminded of the Book of Esther and the conversation between Mordecai and Esther when she faced her moment of truth.

Mordecai turned to Esther as she paused in the face of what looked to be an insurmountable obstacle, and he said to her, "Who knows whether you have not come to the kingdom for such a time as this?"

Let me pose a similar question to you here, today. Who knows whether or not you have come for such a time as this?

Queen Esther and her forces were victorious. This too is a battle we can win. We, too, will be victorious. And, again, women will help lead the way.

Thank you for all that you do. Let us take from this moment the determination to follow in the footsteps of our heroes—Dr. King, Justice Marshall, Mrs. Parks and Mrs. Till, Ida B. Wells, Sojourner Truth, Maynard Jackson, and Reverend Jesse Jackson—and, like Esther, seize our moment.

I say again, Rainbow Push, you have come for a time such as this.

Thank you and God bless you.

## TAXPAYER PROTECTION AND IRS ACCOUNTABILITY ACT OF 2003

SPEECH OF

**HON. EARL POMEROY**

OF NORTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 19, 2003

Mr. POMEROY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to say that I cannot support this bill. I do support nearly everything in the underlying bill. It is mostly the product of a bipartisan effort to address taxpayer rights issues and those provisions should be enacted. Unfortunately, the addition of "poison pill" language into this bill prevents me from supporting this legislation today.

This bill has many good components, including provisions I worked on personally with Mr. HOUGHTON. There are several excellent provisions from members of both sides of the aisle, in addition to a number of important rec-

ommendations made by the Taxpayer Advocate at the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) to improve services of the agency and protect consumer rights. Most of these provisions are broadly, if not unanimously, supported.

However, what started as a good bipartisan bill has been tarnished by the addition of an anti-consumer provision that is troublesome enough that I cannot vote for it. Language was added to this bill to strip essential consumer protections for those purchasing health insurance using tax credits granted under the Trade Assistance Act (TAA). These existing, carefully negotiated consumer protections are in place to ensure adequate coverage for those using the tax credit. They are enjoyed by every member of this Congress, and they are critical to providing meaningful health coverage.

Proponents of removing these consumer protections call it "consumer choice." But as a former insurance regulator, I can tell you that families facing unemployment and possible loss of health insurance due to U.S. trade policy need health insurance that is both affordable and provides adequate coverage. They should not be forced to "choose" one over the other.

Under current law, insurance companies who agree to offer coverage to displaced workers under this program are substantially limited in their ability to turn down applicants, charge excessive premiums or otherwise seek to cover only the healthiest individuals. Without these requirements, the promise of help for most of these people and their families would be meaningless. Understand, however, these are not special protections. These are standard protections and they are being stripped in this bill.

Making coverage cheaper by restricting it to the healthy undermines its purpose—health security for those who need it most. It's like making automobile air bags out of tissue paper—a tactic sure to make cars cheaper for all and hurt only those few who are in accidents—those whose goal it is to protect in the first place.

Only healthy people can afford to "waive" the protections. If the waiver is available, the insurance industry would likely gladly enter into arrangements to cover only the young and healthy displaced workers and walk away from those who need help most. This would make a mockery out of the agreement the members of this House voted for in passing the TAA.

Or worse yet, perhaps those most in need of coverage would indeed be issued policies, using this credit, but only coverage that exempts any pre-existing conditions. In other words, this credit could be used to underinsure individuals or families, leaving them vulnerable without the protection they need most. Is it really helpful to displaced workers to provide a tax credit to purchase coverage that doesn't cover what they need most? Of course it isn't, and that's why we included standard consumer protections in the first place.

Mr. Speaker, aside from this anti-consumer provision related to health care tax credits, I strongly support the underlying bill. The majority of this bill is good for taxpayers and would serve to improve the operations of the IRS and the services they provide to our constituents. However, as long as this poison pill provision remains in this bill, I will oppose it.

## A TRIBUTE TO RAO ANUMOLU

**HON. CAROLYN MCCARTHY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 25, 2003*

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today to express my deep appreciation and recognition of Mr. Rao S. Anumolu of Hauppauge, NY for his tireless efforts in support of our nations defense. As President and CEO of ASR International Corporation, Mr. Anumolu has assisted the Department of Defense in its fight to protect our homeland since the attack on our country on September 11th and particularly during the Iraqi war. Since its conception in 1986, ASR International has developed cost effective technology and systems to protect our nations airports, waterways, railroads and highways. Most recently, ASR International has developed the "SAFETY/SECURITY ASSURANCE SYSTEM" in order to further support our efforts at Homeland Security in a comprehensive and cost effective manner.

In addition to Mr. Anumolu's arduous work with ASR International, he has made quite a name for himself outside their doors. Earning a MS in Industrial Engineering and a MBA in Management, Mr. Anumolu furthered his education in the field of Defense by enrolling in numerous courses at Defense Systems Management College as well as Harvard University and other esteemed institutions. With this stellar academic background, Mr. Anumolu entered the work force, holding such prestigious positions as Senior Engineer, Program Manager and Director of Prime Defense contractors before founding ASR International in 1986.

This is not the first time Mr. Anumolu has been recognized for his efforts. In 1993, Mr. Anumolu received the Business Excellence Award from the U.S. Small Business Administration for his work in the field of Defense. Now, it is my turn to say "Thanks."

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join with me in expressing our gratitude to Mr. Anumolu for his exemplary work and dedication to the safety and protection of all Americans. His many accomplishments have helped make the United States a safe place for all.

## HONORING FATHER WALTER L. DOLAN

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 26, 2003*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of Father Walter L. Dolan, O.F.M., upon the occasion of his retirement from active ministry.

Father Dolan has served as President of Padua Franciscan High School in Parma for the past nine years. Under his leadership, the high school has flourished in many ways. Enrollment has steadily increased at Padua, and today the high school is the largest Catholic co-educational secondary school in northern Ohio. Additionally, it was because of Father Dolan that Padua Franciscan High School is now officially designated as a College Preparatory High School—making it only one of

fourteen with this status in the entire State of Ohio.

Not only has Father Dolan significantly raised the bar on academic standards and excellence at Padua, he also focused on the improvement of the school's athletic facilities. These significant exterior developments created new baseball and softball fields, new track fields and facilities, parking and roadway improvements, and a new football stadium. Father Dolan ensured that appropriate landscaping graced the boundaries of every new development.

Moreover, Father Dolan's goal for Padua included financial stability for the school, and aid for eligible students. During his tenure, Father Dolan secured a major funding effort to build a strong endowment, entitled "The Campaign For Tomorrow." This significant endeavor exists to increase the amount of financial aid to students in need. This endowment is also designed to maintain the school's technological level, and also provides teachers with cutting-edge educational training.

Mr. Speaker and Colleagues, please join me in honor and recognition of Father Walter L. Dolan as he retires as President of Padua Franciscan High School, and as he retires from active ministry. Father Dolan's contributions throughout his ministry are significant and immeasurable, and his work and service will be greatly missed. His leadership, expertise, guidance and concern for others have served to uplift the entire Padua community, and the entire Cleveland community, and his gift of faith and compassion will forever light our community.

## IN HONOR OF ROY BOHNER

**HON. MARTIN FROST**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 26, 2003*

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Mr. Roy Orthmor Bohner, who recently celebrated his 51st anniversary working with Lockheed Martin Missiles and Fire Control in Dallas, TX.

Roy Bohner has been a dedicated employee of MFC since he began working there many years ago as an Engineering Trainee and a junior hydraulics design engineer. Some of his notable accomplishments include a design of an autopilot for a radio controlled drone aircraft, a successful R&D program to do flight control analysis, and design studies for a "fly-by-wire" control system named Electro-RAM. In addition to his service in Dallas, Roy spent some time at the General Dynamics plant, now Lockheed Martin Aeronautics in Fort Worth, as part of the Industry Assist program.

Prior to joining MFC, Roy served our country in World War II as a member in the 11th Army Division, and he continues to contribute to this Nation through his loyalty and dedication to his projects at Lockheed Martin. A man of ardor and great humor, Roy's objective is to be the oldest living employee at Missiles and Fire Control in Dallas.

Roy is an exemplary model of the American worker who is dedicated to continue serving this great Nation.

Mr. Speaker, Roy Bohner deserves special recognition for his tremendous achievement

and dedication. He serves as a role model to the rest of us, and I wish him success in his future endeavors.

## TRIBUTE TO MARIE DAVIS OF NORTH ADAMS, MI

**HON. NICK SMITH**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 26, 2003*

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Marie Davis of North Adams, Michigan.

A lifelong resident of North Adams, Marie has enriched the lives of others through her outstanding participation in civic and volunteer activities, and her many accounts of life in North Adams.

Marie was born on August 14, 1909 and is a lifelong resident of North Adams. She attended school there and graduated from North Adams High School, and has been a member of the North Adams United Methodist Church. Marie has also represented North Adams as a member of the Women's Congress at the Hillsdale County fair for many years.

Mrs. Davis is best known for her historical accounts of life in North Adams and has kept diaries of all major events that have occurred there. She has written and published five books about local history, including: "This is North Adams," "100 Years of Sports in North Adams," "The History of North Adams Schools," and "1886-2002: The History of the North Adams Fire Department."

Marie Davis will celebrate her 94th birthday on August 14, 2003, and is still considered North Adams' official historian, continuing to chronicle the lives and events of that community.

North Adams is a small midwestern town with tree-lined streets, friendly neighbors, and thanks to Mrs. Davis, a preserved heritage. I am pleased to recognize the efforts of Marie Davis in preserving the memories, stories and values of the past for present and future generations.

## GENERAL ERIC K. SHINSEKI

**HON. CURT WELDON**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 26, 2003*

Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the outstanding service of one of America's true heroes, General Eric K. Shinseki.

General Shinseki retires from the Army after a career that spanned the globe and 38 years of service in peace and war. Let me be very clear, what General Shinseki has accomplished as chief is tied directly to the welfare of soldiers and their ability to remain the world's greatest warfighters and we owe him a debt of gratitude.

General Shinseki was just a young cadet at West Point, when General of the Army Douglas MacArthur, gave his distinguished Farewell Speech on the banks of the Hudson to the Corps of Cadets. General MacArthur's words embodied the creed of military service:

"Duty," "honor," "country"—Those three hallowed words reverently dictate what you

want to be, what you can be. They are your rallying points to build courage when courage seems to fail, to regain faith when there seems to be little cause for faith, to create hope when hope becomes forlorn.—General Douglas MacArthur's Farewell Speech, May 12, 1962

These ideals—of duty, honor and country so eloquently expressed by General MacArthur that day have been personified in General Shinseki's distinguished career. General Shinseki graduated from the United States Military Academy in 1965 and later received a Master of Arts Degree in English Literature from Duke University.

As a young officer, General Shinseki served two combat tours in Vietnam. He was twice wounded, and earned two Purple Hearts as well as four Bronze Star Medals. He then went on to serve for more than ten years throughout Europe in positions of increasing authority and responsibility. In 1996, General Shinseki was promoted to lieutenant general and returned to the Pentagon as Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations and Planning.

General Shinseki's duties culminated with his promotion and assignment as Chief of Staff of the Army in 1999. Already, as Vice Chief of Staff, he had developed an innovative plan to prepare the Army to face the unique challenges of the 21st century. Soon after becoming Chief of Staff of the Army, General Shinseki embarked on a bold plan to transform the Army to a lighter, more lethal, more flexible and transportable force that would be fully capable of meeting the full range of threats that face today's Army. He was a visionary who began transformation long before the term became popular.

Perhaps most poignantly, General Shinseki should be remembered as the gladiator President Roosevelt spoke of so long ago:

It is not the critic who counts, not the man who points out how the strong man stumbles, or where the doer of deeds could have done them better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena; whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood; who strives valiantly; who errs, and comes short again and again, because there is no effort without error and shortcoming; but who does actually strive to do the deeds; who knows the great enthusiasms, the great devotions; who spends himself in a worthy cause; who at best knows in the end the triumph of high achievement, and who at the worst, if he fails, at least fails while daring greatly, so that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who know neither victory nor defeat.—Address at the Sorbonne, Paris, France, April 23, 1910.

Throughout his thirty-eight years of service General Shinseki's first and primary focus has always been the men and women of the United States Army. Among his many accomplishments, General Shinseki revolutionized recruitment, training and education. Just one example of General Shinseki's innovative approach is eCybermission, a program that encourages young men and women to pursue education and careers in engineering and science, which he sees as fundamental to the future of the Army and the nation.

General Shinseki attributes much of his success to the support of his wife Patty, who has also contributed greatly to aid the wives and families of our service men and women. Together, they have raised two wonderful children, Lori and Ken.

This nation, the Congress, the Department of Defense, and the men and women of the

Army, owe a debt of gratitude to General Shinseki and his wife Patty for their selfless service. They have given meaning to the timeless values that continue to reverberate across the plain at West Point—"Duty, Honor, Country."

## THE CASE FOR LABOR STANDARDS IN TRADE AGREEMENTS

### HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 26, 2003

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I ask that excerpts of a recent speech by Mr. LEVIN of Michigan be printed.

In recent years the major industrial growth in El Salvador, Nicaragua and Guatemala has been in the maquilas, assembling apparel in free trade zones.

100,000 to 150,000 people work in the garment maquilas of each nation. 75-85 percent of the workers on average are women, with an average age of 18-25.

A majority are the sole source of income for themselves and their children.

By law, the work week is supposed to be 44 hours, with overtime on a voluntary basis.

The typical worker receives about 65 to 75 cents per hour. If paid by piece the average could be around \$1 per hour.

Almost every nation in the world has agreed through the International Labor Organization (ILO) to respect five core labor standards: prohibitions on child labor and forced labor, non-discrimination, and the rights to associate and to bargain collectively. In the garment maquilas, the most salient are the rights to associate and organize and to bargain collectively.

In Central America today, the basic labor-management dynamic is like the United States at the turn of the last century.

In Nicaragua and El Salvador, an employer can fire any employee whom it believes is sympathetic to an organizing effort simply by paying severance.

In one plant I visited in Nicaragua workers had quite recently been working 70- to 80 hours (apparently for the same \$100 a month); in some cases they were working 24 hour shifts. Protests finally forced new management, but the new management acknowledged that they were still working people longer than permitted in the law.

In Guatemala, we talked with a worker who had personally witnessed other employees who had been trying to organize being beaten with bats at work.

In Nicaragua and Guatemala, we heard numerous reports of employers using the criminal process in order to break up unions in maquilas and other sectors.

In El Salvador, we visited a free trade zone in which a plant was shut down to avoid its workers being able to organize. We heard highly credible evidence that the leaders of the organizing effort were subsequently blacklisted as they sought other employment.

In Guatemala, it is not legally possible for a union to attempt to organize within an entire industry, like the garment industry, without having in advance 50 percent plus one of the workers signed up and registering with the government.

Nicaraguan and Guatemalan employees cannot strike without government approval.

The State Department Human Rights Report, and numerous other reports from groups like Human Rights Watch, confirm that the facts and incidents are the constant reality.

In El Salvador, Beatrice Alamanni de Carillo, a veteran judge and professor, serves as Prosecutor for the Defense of Human Rights. She was appointed by the National Assembly, with a majority from the conservative Arena Party. Her comments:

"In the private sector an anti-union culture persists in great measure and for many years, employers have generated a climate that does not contribute to the promotion of worker organization in their workplace. . . . The Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare has not demonstrated a real will to guarantee in practice the rights of workers, either individually or collectively. There is a very loud clamor that the authorities of that Ministry do not make their best efforts to adequately check working conditions in businesses, and, in addition, they tolerate and promote an anti-union culture in the country."

In each country, the rights to associate and organize and to bargain collectively are not realities. The laws themselves are inadequate. Even where there are laws on the books, they are not well enforced and are often used against workers trying to organize.

As far as I could determine, there is not a single effective collective bargaining agreement in any of the garment maquilas of the three countries, though there are almost 400,000 workers.

In Guatemala, a leader of the union connected with the Christian Democrats put it this way: the problem is that employers have "impunity," "they make up their own laws."

You may jump to the conclusion that I came back discouraged. That is not accurate.

If the issue of core labor standards is addressed in CAFTA by including a fully enforceable obligation to adopt these standards, it will have an important impact on socio-economic dynamics in these countries by helping develop a middle class.

In the last decade the apparel/textile maquilas have been the major source of economic growth and new employment in each of the three nations I visited, and in Honduras.

The realities within the maquilas today are built on a total imbalance in relationships between employer and employee. The vast majority of workers, young women, are particularly vulnerable, with overriding fear that for them losing a job means an end to their income.

It is essential in order to provide opportunities to the CAFTA countries to expand trade and strengthen commercial ties with the region. It is equally essential that the rules of trade and investment be shaped in a way that maximizes the benefits to those countries and the U.S.

For workers to be able to break the cycle of poverty, they need to have the ability to join together, to participate, to improve their economic status. This is an antecedent to helping those workers use the potential of globalization to create, join, or expand the middle class.

Hernando de Soto recently authored *The Mystery Of Capital: Why Capitalism Succeeds In The West And Fails Everywhere Else*, which posits that economies develop where property rights are formalized, are clearly and efficiently defined, are enforceable, and may be exercised by all; in this way all property can become capital. Labor market standards help workers maximize a key property right—property in one's own labor.



A key reason to seek a minimum floor of respect for the five core, internationally-recognized labor standards is to ensure that the CAFTA countries will not compete in a race to the bottom in their efforts to promote trade and attract investment. Some argue that the race to the bottom is a myth, that income levels will rise when trade and investment flows increase, and all domestic standards will rise as income levels increase. These arguments ignore the fact that, as with all other economic factors, investment dollars are scarce and there is fierce competition to attract those dollars. When the competition is over labor-intensive industries, one of the key points of competition is the labor market pool.

A New York Times article from about two years ago quoted the President of El Salvador regarding intra-regional competition, who stated, "The difficulty in this region is that there is labor that is more competitively priced than El Salvador."

Another article from about one year ago in the Washington Post described the interesting changes in patterns in banana trade, with Ecuador attracting an increasing share. The explanation, according to one major fruit company executive, is that "the costs in Ecuador are so much lower. There are no unions, no labor standards, and the pay is as low as two dollars a day."

If the promise of expanded trade—increased incomes and lower levels of income inequality—is to be realized, it is important that the CAFTA countries not compete with each other based upon abuse of core labor standards. The best way to do that is to establish over a reasonable period of time a floor—adopting the five core labor standards as rules of competition in this critical economic area in the FTA itself—just as we establish floors through rules of competition in other areas like intellectual property, investor rights, and tariff levels.

The Central American nations do not need to suppress their workers in order to compete. There is an opportunity to build an economic structure based on implementation of core labor standards so that garments from those nations could bear a label reading "made under internationally recognized labor standards," which many competing goods will not possess.

The alternative is an increasing effort by consumer groups in the U.S. to boycott companies that make garments under conditions that violate these standards.

Efforts by American retailer-purchasers to promulgate and implement private business codes will not make up for a lack of a basic governmental and societal structure. In the New York Times article quoted above, an official from a major American retailer said "We can't be the whole solution. The solution has to be labor laws that are adequate, respected, and enforced."

By addressing core internationally recognized labor standards in the CAFTA negotiations, it is more likely that the domestic coalition necessary to tackle the tough market access issues with the United States can be assembled.

Total two-way trade between the United States and the CAFTA countries is about \$20 billion. Combined, the CAFTA countries constitute the 18th largest export market for the U.S. and about half of all foreign direct investment in these countries comes from the U.S.

Beyond the current relationship, the United States is seeking better market access for

goods and service providers, protection for investors, and improved intellectual property protection from the CAFTA countries. These countries are seeking more investment and more U.S. market access, primarily in the textiles and apparel and agriculture sectors. Otherwise, CAFTA will provide no significant benefits to Central America beyond those provided by the Caribbean Basin Initiative (CBI).

I joined with several others in helping to shape the enhanced market access in textiles and apparel when we expanded the CBI a few years ago. The result has been a move toward a more integrated Caribbean-area textile and apparel market. I believe that further integration is necessary. If not, once quotas are removed in 2005 much more of this market will be lost to goods from other areas.

One of the keys to increased market access will be squarely facing up to the core labor standards issue. When we considered the expansion of CBI, the core labor standards issue was directly addressed by heightening the labor standards criterion in the CBI program. Under that criterion, the United States may unilaterally judge whether a nation is implementing the core labor standards. With the negotiation of CAFTA, and the consequent elimination of the CBI labor standards criteria, including a fully enforceable obligation to enforce the five core labor standards, is even more important.

The further integration in apparel and textile, as well as agriculture, means some further displacement in the United States. Comparative advantage is sound economics, but the distortion of the labor market by suppression of workers to create this advantage is unsound as an economic and policy matter, is unnecessary, and will only deepen opposition from competing workers and businesses in the United States.

Facing the issues surrounding core labor standards is not a vehicle for "protectionism." Indeed, it is an opportunity for expanded trade.

Only a coalition that is far broader and solidly bipartisan, much more so than the narrow votes in the U.S. House achieved by last minute concessions, can be the basis for working out decisions on the tough issues of apparel and textiles and agriculture in CAFTA, and beyond.

More broadly, CAFTA can and should be a building block towards effective negotiation of an FTAA.

The CAFTA negotiations present the opportunity for the United States to negotiate fully enforceable core labor standards, combined with a phased-in compliance period, a significant and ongoing commitment of U.S. technical assistance to the countries to help them achieve compliance before and in the initial years of the agreement, and positive market access incentives for countries that improve their laws and enforcement record (for instance, by accelerating implementation of market access phase-ins or by providing improved access than required by the terms of the FTA). The goal of those of us who seek to establish rules in this area is to expand trade, not shut it off.

There are many similarities between Central American nations and those in the rest of Latin America. Where there are, what is negotiated in CAFTA will matter. That will be true, for example in investment, intellectual property, customs obligations, and labor standards.

Where there are differences, it is a serious mistake to use an agreement for one country as a model for another, turning a building block into a stumbling block.

This is what seems to be evolving as to use of the Chile and Singapore agreements for negotiations in CAFTA. Last week USTR tabled in the CAFTA negotiations a proposal on core labor standards using the Chile and Singapore provisions as a model. Use of a standard of enforcing one's own laws is viable where a nation's laws embody the five ILO core labor standards and there is a record of enforcement of those laws. The laws of Chile and Singapore do embody the five core labor standards and these are enforced in practice. The opposite is true in the Central American nations I visited; the standard of "enforce your own laws" would be a backward step in the CAFTA and benefit those with the worst laws.

This sparked the letter last week to Ambassador Zoellick from the Democratic leadership of the House and Mr. Rangel, Mr. Matsui and myself. We said "We write as supporters of negotiations for a U.S.-Central American free trade agreement. . . . That said, we are not supportive of the proposed U.S. draft text for the FTA's labor chapter. . . . The current version of this text does not adequately address the economic and individual impact of the egregious conditions for workers in the region, and should not be the starting point for consideration of these issues."

Inclusion of a core labor standards provision in the CAFTA, and in future trade agreements, will help answer arguments of those who complain that globalization is harmful to the poor and anti-the "little guy."

I came home from my trip with a positive view of the opportunities that can be achieved, but only if we address the significant challenges. A key challenge is to place core labor standards in a broader perspective, and to understand that it is vital to the future of each Central American nation, the Central American region, the integration of the hemispheric market and the future of U.S. trade policy.

## INTRODUCTION OF THE "WINNING THE PEACE ACT OF 2003"

**HON. SAM FARR**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 26, 2003*

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce a new piece of legislation—the "Winning the Peace Act of 2003". I am pleased to be joined by colleagues from both sides of the aisle—Representative WOLF of Virginia, Representative HOFFEL of Pennsylvania, Representative LEACH of Iowa, and Representative WEXLER of Florida—as original cosponsors of the bill.

The "Winning the Peace Act of 2003" creates a much-needed institutional framework to deal with post-conflict situations, such as those the U.S. currently faces in Afghanistan and Iraq. The principle components of the bill are as follows:

Creation of Director of Reconstruction Positions to provide a point person in the U.S. government to coordinate operations in post-conflict scenarios.



Creation of a FEMA-like office within USAID to manage a database and serve as a clearinghouse for post-conflict reconstruction experts, and to provide support for post-conflict operations.

Creation of a NATO unit to respond to post-conflict scenarios, and authorization of the President to make a U.S. contribution of personnel to the unit.

Establishment of a U.S. post-conflict training center, building on existing training programs in the country.

Creation of a Civilian Police Reserve to train and deploy American police officers interested in serving overseas in post-conflict environments.

Creation of a "Security Development Fund"—\$300 million in a drawdown account to provide resources to cover immediate and unforeseen costs in declared post-conflict situations, and potential U.S. contributions to multilateral operations.

The "Winning the Peace Act of 2003" is designed to fill a vacuum in U.S. foreign policy. It creates institutional mechanisms where only ad hoc arrangements exist. It establishes a permanent source of funding instead of relying on the Congressional appropriations calendar, or emergency supplemental bills. Equally important, the bill lays the groundwork, through training and education, for a new cadre of post-conflict experts, both civilians and military, in the governmental and non-governmental sectors.

The United States has faced post-conflict situations in the past—in the 1940s in Germany and Japan, and more recently in Somalia, Haiti, Bosnia and Kosovo, to name a few. We, along with our allies—countries and multilateral institutions—have observed and learned much in recent history. While it is true that no two situations are identical, it can be said there are always common challenges. The "Winning the Peace Act of 2003" addresses those challenges and will strengthen the capacity of the United States to pursue its foreign policy objectives in the future.

#### INTRODUCTION OF THE KILAUEA POINT NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE EXPANSION ACT OF 2003

##### HON. ED CASE

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 26, 2003*

Mr. CASE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce a bill to authorize expansion of the Kilauea Point National Wildlife Refuge on the Island of Kaua'i. This bill is a vital component of one of my principal goals in Congress: to ensure that federal and/or state or private protection is extended to as many of Hawai'i's threatened and irreplaceable areas as possible, both to ensure the survival and recovery of Hawai'i's unique endangered and threatened species and to preserve the remaining unspoiled natural treasures of our beautiful islands for future generations.

The Kilauea National Wildlife Refuge, located at the northernmost tip of Kaua'i, was established in 1985. The initial acreage of 31 acres was increased to 203 acres through additional acquisitions in 1993 and 1994. The refuge provides invaluable habitat for many native seabirds, including the Laysan Albatross, the Red-footed Booby, and the Wedge-tailed Shearwater, as well as for the endangered nene (Hawaiian Goose). Native plants have also been reintroduced to the area. The Refuge and its historic lighthouse have become one of Hawai'i's world-class tourist destinations, visited by some 400,000 visitors each year.

The proposed expansion area consists of three indispensable land parcels that are currently available for purchase and could be added to the eastern boundary of the Refuge. The Kilauea River runs through the land, which also includes an extensive lo'i (irrigated terrace for traditional cultivation of taro, the staple crop of Native Hawaiians) which could be restored to support endangered Hawaiian water birds, including the Koloa duck, Hawaiian coot, Hawaiian stilt, and Hawaiian moorhen. There is also a high quality estuarine ecosystem at the lower reaches of the river, which includes habitat for endangered birds as well as native stream life, such as the hihai (an endemic snail) and o'opu (native goby). The proposed addition also provides an excellent habitat for the nene, Hawai'i's state bird, which was only recently saved from extinction. The beach is also sometimes used by endangered Hawaiian monk seals, and endangered sea turtles nest in the area.

These three parcels are available for sale and each of the owners has expressed a desire to see the land protected from development. But given rampant urbanization on Kaua'i (and elsewhere in Hawai'i) and the high demand for waterfront property, we could very well lose this remarkable opportunity to add high quality wildlife habitat to our national refuge system.

The Kilauea community strongly supports protecting the land from development. In fact, the Kilauea Point National Wildlife Refuge is a model for management of other federal refuges nationwide. The operations of the Refuge are supported by community volunteers, who give daily tours of the Refuge and help in the preservation of native plant species. The principal volunteer group, Kilauea Point Natural History Association, even has a small store in the Visitor Center, the proceeds of which go to the Refuge and for environmental education throughout Hawaii.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this bill, and invite you to come to the Island of Kaua'i to visit the Refuge. I know that if you did so, you would be convinced as I am of the importance of protecting these lands.

#### A PROCLAMATION CONGRATULATING JACKSON CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT AND THEIR ENERGY PROJECT JEEP III FOR 2003

##### HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 26, 2003*

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, Whereas, JEEP III (Jackson's Energy Education Project) showcases their dedication to Energy awareness and education throughout the school district and community; and

Whereas, these young people have demonstrated exceptional talent, ingenuity, and creativeness in finding ways to expand our understanding of energy issues; and

Whereas, Jackson City Schools' "JEEP III" received First Place honors for the State of Ohio; and

Whereas, Jackson City Schools will be recognized in Washington, DC at the National Youth Awards Program for Energy Achievement sponsored by the National Energy Education Development (NEED) Project;

Therefore, I join with the residents of the entire 18th Congressional District of Ohio in congratulating Jackson City Schools for their outstanding pursuit of excellence.

#### IN HONOR OF SAINT BONIFACE PARISH

##### HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 26, 2003*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the parish community of Saint Boniface Parish, as they celebrate 100 years of faith and hope in Cleveland's Westside neighborhood. Throughout the past century, Saint Boniface Parish has served as a spiritual refuge—radiating hope, encouragement, education and faith.

Father Casimir Reichlin began the ministry of Saint Boniface in February of 1903. His visionary focus aimed at educating children within the framework of the neighborhood parish has remained as significant and impactful today as it was 100 years ago. As Saint Boniface Parish was born, so was Saint Boniface School. In 1904, Reverend A. M. Seeholzer was named Pastor of Saint Boniface Parish. Under the guidance of Father Reichlin, Pastor Seeholzer oversaw the construction of a four-room frame building that would serve parishioners and students for the next 12 years.

In March of 1923, parishioners and spiritual leaders of Saint Boniface Parish celebrated the grand opening of the new Saint Boniface School. The sturdy, two-story brick structure contained 16 classrooms, accommodating more than 700 students, in grades kindergarten through high school. Today, Saint Boniface School provides preschool, kindergarten and first grade instruction.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor and recognition of every member of Saint Boniface Parish, as they celebrate 100 years of fostering faith, hope, enlightenment and love within our Cleveland community. Saint Boniface Parish continues its dedication to providing educational and spiritual growth, elevating the lives of countless children, adults and families within our community.

#### A RESOLUTION HONORING JOSIE COLE, LEGRAND SMITH SCHOLARSHIP WINNER OF PARMA, MI

SPEECH OF

##### HON. NICK SMITH

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 13, 2003*

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, let it be known that it is with great respect for the outstanding record of excellence she has compiled in academics, leadership and community service, that I am proud to salute Josie Cole,

winner of the 2003 LeGrand Smith Scholarship. This award is made to young adults who have demonstrated that they are truly committed to playing important roles in our Nation's future.

As a winner of the LeGrand Smith Scholarship, Josie is being honored for demonstrating that same generosity of spirit, intelligence, responsible citizenship, and capacity for human service that distinguished the late LeGrand Smith of Somerset, Michigan.

Josie is an exceptional student at Springport High School, and possesses an outstanding record of achievement in high school. Josie has received numerous awards for her excellence in academics and athletics, as well as her volunteer activities with the Eaton Rapids Women's Club and Vacation Bible School. Josie is also proficient in sign language and has signed the National Anthem at athletic events at Springport High School.

Therefore, I am proud to join with her many admirers in extending my highest praise and congratulations to Josie Cole for her selection as winner of a LeGrand Smith Scholarship. This honor is a testament to the parents, teachers, and others whose personal interest, strong support and active participation contributed to her success. To this remarkable young woman, I extend my most heartfelt good wishes for all her future endeavors.

SAINT ANTHONY OF PADUA PARISH CELEBRATES 75TH ANNIVERSARY

SPEECH OF

**HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 15, 2003*

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, today I call the attention of the House of Representatives to the 75th anniversary of Saint Anthony of Padua Parish of Exeter, Pennsylvania. The parish will celebrate this milestone with a Mass and dinner on May 18, 2003, with the dinner chaired by Attorney Charles J. Bufalino.

At the start of the 20th century, thousands of Italian immigrants came to America in search of a better life for themselves and their families. Many of them came to work in the coal mines of Northeastern Pennsylvania, with quite a few settling in the Exeter area. In addition to their common heritage and language, they shared a common faith, so they founded a parish where they could come together as a community.

The first church serving Saint Anthony of Padua Parish was built in 1928 and 1929, to be followed by a new church in 1963. Father Alphonse Manley, a diocesan priest, staffed the parish until the arrival of Father Emilio Bocalatte, O.S.J., an Oblate of Saint Joseph, in 1930. The Oblates of Saint Joseph have staffed the parish ever since. The present pastor is the Rev. Daniel Schwebs.

I am told it is quite common to find parishioners, young and old alike, in the church offering prayers throughout the day, and this is an example of the faith that abides at Saint Anthony's.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to call to the attention of the House the 75th anniversary of Saint Anthony of Padua Parish, and I extend my congratulations to all who are associated with the parish.

TRIBUTE TO ADRIAN SPOTTEN HOOPER, A LEGACY OF MARITIME ACHIEVEMENTS

**HON. CURT WELDON**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 26, 2003*

Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Adrian Spotten Hooper, one of Pennsylvania's most distinguished business, maritime and community leaders. Mr. Hooper was Chairman of Penn's Landing Corporation, in Philadelphia, PA, during the area's initial development and head of the Independence Seaport Museum when it was moved to the waterfront. In fact, there would be no Independence Seaport Museum without Adrian's leadership.

Mr. Hooper, born and raised in West Philadelphia, had been fascinated by the sea since his youth. He ran away from home at the age of 15 and tried to join the Merchant Marine, but was forced to return after his father intervened and arranged for him to sail on a Norwegian vessel in the North Atlantic for a few months. Mr. Hooper got sailing out of his system for a while, and graduated from Lower Merion High School in 1941. But to the sea he soon returned. As soon as World War II broke out, Adrian joined the Navy. He wanted to be at sea and fight in the war so badly that he memorized the eye chart, because he was blind in one eye. He went on to serve our country as a torpedoman on a destroyer in the Atlantic and the Pacific until 1945.

After the war, Mr. Hooper earned a bachelor's in business from the University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School in 1950. That year, he married Elizabeth Wharton Shober, and they moved to Devon, PA. He also began his professional career as a dispatcher for Interstate Oil Transport Company in Philadelphia.

Mr. Hooper's career was interrupted in 1951 when he joined the Army during the Korean War. He served stateside until 1953.

After the war, Mr. Hooper returned to the Interstate Oil Transport Company and served as chief executive officer until the company was sold in 1981 to Southern Natural Resources.

Mr. Hooper's public service began in the early 1970s, when former Mayor Frank L. Rizzo appointed him chairman of Penn's Landing Corporation. At the time, the 22.5-acre area along the Delaware River from Market to Lombard Streets, commemorating where Philadelphia began more than 300 years ago, was fallow. Under Mr. Hooper's direction and able leadership, Penn's Landing became an entertainment center.

Mr. Hooper dedicated his life to maritime issues. He served as chairman of the American Institute of Merchant Shipping in the mid-1970s. While president of the Independence Seaport Museum, then called the Philadelphia Maritime Museum, Mr. Hooper led a \$15 million fund drive that enabled the museum to move from Chestnut Street to Penn's Landing in 1995.

Mr. Hooper had many other exciting ventures outside of Philadelphia.

In 1966, Mr. Hooper and the late Charles P. "Pete" Conrad, Apollo 12 commander, founded Universal Space Net, a satellite tracking firm in California. The firm has done work for NASA, the Air Force, and aerospace firms.

Mr. Hooper's first wife died in 1996, and he married Susan M. Borresen Hooper in 1999. In addition to his wife, Mr. Hooper is survived by daughters Suzanne, Elizabeth, and Dana; a son, Adrian Jr.; stepchildren Karen and Devon Walsh; and four grandchildren.

Mr. Hooper's legacy will endure not only in the principles he stood for and the improvements he brought to Pennsylvania, but also his wonderful family, his wife and children. Mr. Hooper's legacy is sure to include his keen understanding that the most important elements of our maritime infrastructure are people—shipyard workers, commercial seafarers, merchant fleet operators, and many others who make America the maritime nation that it is today.

Mr. Speaker, our region has lost an exceptional leader, and I have lost a good friend. I wish the family of Adrian Hooper my heartfelt condolences and may they find comfort in knowing that the many people he impacted deeply value his dedication and generosity and the example of his life and work. Adrian Hooper exemplified the spirit of service that has made this country great. It is proper to remember and honor a man of such worth and character with great respect for what he accomplished and stood for.

THE REALITY PRINCIPLE

**HON. BARNEY FRANK**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 26, 2003*

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, President Bush's serious personal involvement in the effort to bring about Middle East peace deserves both praise and, more important, strong support from all Americans. As a strong supporter of the State of Israel and its right to exist as a democratic, Jewish state in a secure environment, I firmly believe that what President Bush is doing is very much in furtherance of the achievement of that goal, and I am pleased that he is taking the risks that are inherent when any president seeks genuinely to push for peace in the Middle East. As Thomas Friedman noted in a recent column in the New York Times, President Bush's involvement is essential if we are to reach peace.

As Mr. Friedman also notes, and those of us who seek peace must be prepared to acknowledge this, "it may be that the Palestinians are capable only of self-destructive revenge, rather than constructive restraint and reconciliation." That is, no one can be sure that peace is attainable on grounds that will allow Israel to live securely and without the constant threat of terrorist attacks on its citizens. But as Mr. Friedman adds, "surely Israel has more to gain in the long term by giving Mr. Abbas every chance to prove otherwise, and to empower him to do so . . ."

There are two very tough decisions now facing the government of Israel, and I believe that those of us who have been and are consistent defenders of Israel's right to exist, in the face of the overwhelming hostility of so many neighboring countries, should be explicit in urging the Israeli government to take the necessary action to test the Palestinians willingness to embrace genuinely a two-state solution. One of those decisions is to be willing to

withdraw settlements from much of the West Bank and all of Gaza. The other, even harder given the understandable emotion that the murder of innocent civilians triggers, is to show the restraint that the Bush Administration has asked Israel to show with regard to retaliation against the leaders of Hamas and other terrorist groups. I do not deny Israel's right to act in its own defense, but I do urge the government to consider seriously the wisdom of Mr. Friedman's argument for restraint as a very important step towards testing the prospects for peace.

I have been struck, in conversations with Israeli government officials, by the confidence they have expressed in the good intentions of the new Palestinian Prime Minister, Mahmoud Abbas. But it is also clear that he faces great difficulties, including, sadly, the hostility of Yasir Arafat, whose unwillingness seriously to make peace has been a major factor contributing to the turmoil in the region. Refraining from actions which will unnecessarily undercut Prime Minister Abbas, is clearly in the interest of Israel, certainly until it becomes clearer as to whether or not he will be able to achieve the peace that Israel believes he seeks.

Thomas Friedman's article in the New York Times for Saturday, June 21, spells out this complex set of considerations very well, and I ask that this important article be reprinted here.

THE REALITY PRINCIPLE  
(By Thomas L. Friedman)

Have you noticed how often Israel kills a Hamas activist and the victim is described by Israelis as "a senior Hamas official" or a "key operative"? This has led me to wonder: How many senior Hamas officials could there be? We're not talking about I.B.M. here. We're talking about a ragtag terrorist group. By now Israel should have killed off the entire Hamas leadership twice. Unless what is happening is something else, something I call Palestinian math: Israel kills one Hamas operative and three others volunteer to take his place, in which case what Israel is doing is actually self-destructive.

Self-destructive is, in fact, a useful term to describe Israelis and Palestinians today. "Both sides," notes the Israeli political theorist Yaron Ezrahi, "have crossed the line where self-defense has turned into self-destruction. When self-defense becomes self-destruction, only an external force can bring people back to their senses. And that force is President Bush. I think he is the only reality principle left that either side might listen to, and I hope he understands that."

You know that both sides are in self-destruction mode when you can look at their military actions and say that even if they succeeded they would be worse off. The question is not whether Israel has a right to kill senior Hamas officials. They are bad guys. The question is whether it's smart for Israelis to do it now.

The fact is, the only time Israelis have enjoyed extended periods of peace in the last decade has been when Palestinian security services disciplined their own people, in the heyday of Oslo. Unfortunately, Yasir Arafat proved unwilling to do that consistently. The whole idea of the Bush peace process is to move Mr. Arafat aside and replace him with a Palestinian prime minister, Mahmoud Abbas, who is ready to rebuild the Palestinian security services, and, in the context of an interim peace settlement, corral Hamas.

Hamas knows this. So its tactic is to goad Israel into attacks that will unravel the whole process. The smart thing for Israel to

do—and it's not easy when your civilians are being murdered—is not to play into Hamas's hands. The smart thing is to say to Mr. Abbas: "How can we help you crack down on Hamas? We don't want Israel to own Hamas's demise. Palestinians have to root out this cancer within their own society. If Israelis try to do it, it will only metastasize."

Israel's supporters argue that if America can go after Osama bin Laden, Israel can go after Hamas. Of course Israel is entitled to pursue its mortal enemies, just as America does, but it cannot do it with reckless abandon, notes Mr. Ezrahi, for one reason: America will never have to live with Mr. bin Laden's children. They are far away and always will be. Israel will have to live with the Palestinians, after the war. They are right next door and always will be.

The fact is, Ariel Sharon's two years of using the Israeli Army alone to fight terrorism have not made Israelis more secure. He needs a Palestinian partner, and he has to operate and negotiate in a way that will nurture one. And the people who get that the best are Israelis. In a Yediot Ahronot poll released Friday, two-thirds of Israelis were critical of Mr. Sharon's tactic of targeted assassinations of Hamas officials and said they wanted Mr. Abbas to be given a chance to establish his authority.

It may be that Mr. Abbas can't step up to this. It may be that the Palestinians are capable only of self-destructive revenge, rather than constructive restraint and reconciliation. But surely Israel has more to gain in the long term by giving Mr. Abbas every change to prove otherwise, and to empower him to do so, rather than killing one more Hamas "senior official," who will only be replaced by three others.

Because if the two sides cannot emerge from this dead end, then you can forget about a two-state solution, which is what both Hamas's followers and the extremist Jewish settlers want. They each want a one-state solution, in which their side will control all of Israel, the West Bank and Gaza. The one-state solution would mean the end of the Zionist enterprise, because Israel can rule such an entity, in which there would soon be more Arabs than Jews, only by apartheid or ethnic cleansing. It would also mean the end of Palestinian nationalism, because the Israelis will crush the Palestinians rather than be evicted. That is the outcome we are heading toward, though, unless the only reality principle left, the United States of America, really intervenes—with its influence, its wisdom and, if necessary, its troops.

HONORING CLINICA MARIPOSA

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 26, 2003

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Clinica Mariposa, Planned Parenthood of Watsonville, CA. During a time when healthcare services are continually becoming more expensive, and information on reproductive health is becoming more restricted, Planned Parenthood provides invaluable services and resources to the Watsonville community. For nearly thirty years, Clinica Mariposa has offered education, outreach, and medical services to an ever-growing population that depends on these affordable services.

Since the establishment of Planned Parenthood services in Watsonville in 1974, there has been a demonstrated commitment to affordability, cultural sensitivity, confidentiality,

and high medical standards. All of these things contribute to the achievement of Planned Parenthood's goal of "every child, a wanted child, every family a healthy family."

It is frightening that in a country based on opportunity and equality, there are so many people who are without healthcare. Planned Parenthood has become a crucial part of the local healthcare network that provides a broad range of affordable services. Over the years, the growing health needs of the Watsonville community have been answered by Planned Parenthood and their ever-expanding services and facilities. By utilizing community-based satellites at farm labor camps and community agencies in addition to the Penny Lane location, Planned Parenthood fills a special role serving low-income residents regardless of their insurance status.

In an atmosphere where the constitutionally established right to reproductive choice is being threatened, and access to comprehensive sex education is being limited, the presence and services of Planned Parenthood are critical now more than ever. The presence of Planned Parenthood in Watsonville has ensured that residents have the full spectrum of choices and opportunities regarding their health. In addition, through school based education programs, Planned Parenthood has worked to reduce unintended teen pregnancies by giving young people the information and skills they need to make healthy choices.

The exceptional services that Planned Parenthood offers would be impossible without the dedication of the staff, the generosity of their many supporters, and the support of community leaders. I applaud the hard work of all those who have devoted their time and energy to the cause of affordable, high quality healthcare at the Watsonville Planned Parenthood.

INTRODUCING THE "SMALL BUSINESS FEDERAL SAFEGUARD ACT"

HON. ED CASE

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 26, 2003

Mr. CASE. Mr. Speaker, small businesses are the lifeblood of our economy and generate nearly half of our nation's GDP, yet the federal government is shutting small businesses out of the federal contracting process by bundling small contracts together into large megacontracts.

In my State of Hawai'i for example, the federal government has created large megacontracts for military housing projects. This allows huge corporations to swoop in and win the contracts, even though Hawai'i's small businesses could do the work. Bundling has put these projects, and many other government contracts, out of the reach of small businesses and forces them to become subcontractors. I have heard from countless small business owners who said subcontracting for a large prime contractor is detrimental to their financial health and unfairly forces them to abide by the large corporations' work rules.

Today I introduce a companion bill to S. 633. This bill will strengthen the definition of a bundled contract and prevent federal agencies

from circumventing statutory safeguards intended to prevent contract bundling.

This is a fair and temperate solution, and I ask for my colleagues' support.

**A PROCLAMATION HONORING MR. AND MRS. THOMPSON ON THEIR 70TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY**

**HON. ROBERT W. NEY**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 26, 2003*

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, Whereas, Victor and Ruth Thompson were united in marriage June 26, 1933, and are celebrating their 70th anniversary this year; and

Whereas, Victor and Ruth have demonstrated love and a firm commitment to each other; and

Whereas, Victor and Ruth have proven, by their example, to be a model for all married couples; and

Whereas, Victor and Ruth must be commended for their incredible devotion to each other;

Therefore, I join with the residents of the entire 18th Congressional District of Ohio in congratulating Victor and Ruth Thompson as they celebrate their 70th Wedding Anniversary.

**IN HONOR AND REMEMBRANCE OF SAMUEL LADERMAN**

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 26, 2003*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and remembrance of Samuel Laderman—beloved family man, respected attorney and CPA, and friend and mentor to countless.

Mr. Laderman began his career in the late 1940s first as an accountant. A few years later, he earned a law degree from Cleveland Marshall Law School, which singled him out as one of the few attorneys who also held a CPA license. Mr. Laderman built his career in law and accounting based on expertise, integrity, and a strong work ethic. He forged lifelong professional relationships based on trust, fairness, good will and his ever-present vivacious personality and quick wit.

Aside from his great professional success, Mr. Laderman possessed a kind heart, great sense of humor, and his main priority, focus and greatest love was his family. He was happily married to his college sweetheart, Cecile "Cece" Perry for 58 years. Together they lovingly raised two daughters, Flora and June, and a son, Gerald. Their closeness as a family and deep faith carried them through the tragic loss of their daughter June, who lost her battle with leukemia as a teenager. In her honor and memory, Mr. and Mrs. Laderman worked to help others through their creation of the June Beverly Laderman Memorial Fund with University Hospitals of Cleveland. Mr. Laderman volunteered his time and talents within our community on a regular basis. He was a member of the Cuyahoga County Bar Association, and was first president of the Hillel Alumni Association of Cleveland. In addition, Mr. Laderman

was past president of the Cleveland Heights Chapter of B'nai B'rith, and served on the board of B'nai Jeshurun Synagogue.

Mr. Speaker and Colleagues, please join me in honor and remembrance of Samuel Laderman—beloved family man, respected attorney, CPA, and friend and mentor to countless. I offer my deepest condolences to his beloved wife Cecile; beloved children, Flora and Gerald; to his three adoring grandchildren, extended family, and to his many colleagues and friends. Mr. Laderman's life has left a luminous mark upon our community, and his spirited work and personal and professional legacy will be remembered always.

**IN HONOR OF DUANE SCHAEZLER**

**HON. MARTIN FROST**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 26, 2003*

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding service of Arthur Duane Schaezler, a gentleman who has recently celebrated his 51st anniversary with Lockheed Martin Missiles and Fire Control in my district.

Duane Schaezler served this country as an Air Force navigator for three years before he obtained his BS in Aeronautical Engineering from the University of Texas in 1949. Duane joined what was then-Chance Vought Aircraft in 1951 and has since applied his vast experience and expert technical knowledge in the areas of guidance, navigation, flight dynamics and control systems.

Duane is an excellent example of a dependable and deliberate American whose positive work ethic and loyalty are so important in today's society.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Duane Schaezler on his incredible accomplishment of fifty-one years with Lockheed Martin and wish him continued success in the future.

**TRIBUTE HONORING 2003 LEGRAND SMITH SCHOLARSHIP FINALISTS THOMAS CLEVENGER OF JACKSON, MICHIGAN, AND JEREMY WAGNER-KAISER OF BATTLE CREEK, MICHIGAN**

**HON. NICK SMITH**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 26, 2003*

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, It is with a sincere pleasure to recognize the finalists of the 2003 LeGrand Smith Congressional Scholarship Program. This special honor is an appropriate tribute to the academic accomplishment, demonstration of leadership and responsibility, and commitment to social involvement, demonstration of leadership and responsibility, and commitment to social involvement displayed by these remarkable young adults. We all have reason to celebrate their success, for it is in their promising and capable hands that our future rests.

The finalists of the LeGrand Smith Congressional Scholarship Program are being honored for showing that same generosity of spirit,

depth of intelligence, and capacity for human service that distinguished the late LeGrand Smith of Somerset, Michigan. They are young men and women of character, ambition, and initiative, who have already learned well the value of hard work, discipline and commitment.

These exceptional students have consistently displayed their dedication, intelligence and concern throughout their high school experience. They stand out among their peers due to their many achievements and the disciplined manner in which they meet challenges. While they have already accomplished a great deal, these young people possess unlimited potential, for they have learned the keys to success in any endeavor.

As a Member of Congress of the United States of America, I am proud to join their many admirers in extending our highest praise and congratulations to the finalist of the 2003 LeGrand Smith Congressional Scholarship program.

**HONORING RALPH AND ELEANOR LOCHER ON THE OCCASION OF THEIR 64TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY**

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 26, 2003*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of Mayor Ralph and Eleanor Locher, as they celebrate the sixty-fourth year of their marriage. Their committed partnership to each other also reflects their deep commitment and service to our entire Cleveland community.

Mayor and Mrs. Locher met in their rural hometown of Bluffton, Ohio. As a young boy, Mayor Locher and his family emigrated from Romania and settled in Bluffton. Mrs. Locher was born and raised in Bluffton. Their dedication for each other and their passion for politics originated during their teen years in high school, as they were avid members of the high school debate team—and they've been inseparable ever since.

Mayor and Mrs. Locher attended Dayton University together. After they graduated, they moved to Cleveland and were married in June of 1939. Mr. Locher went on to attend law school at Western Reserve University, while Mrs. Locher worked as a teacher. Soon after, daughter Virginia was born. Mrs. Locher became the steel frame of the Locher family, evolving into the role of mother, supportive wife and civic activist. Throughout Mayor Locher's impressive career as attorney, mayor and judge, Mrs. Locher was a constant and committed advocate, organizer and friend. Their unbreakable alliance has served to encourage, uplift, and bring out the best in one another.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor and recognition of Mayor Ralph Locher and Eleanor Locher as they celebrate sixty four years of marriage. The longevity of their union underscores a deep and abiding love and commitment for each other—and reflects their deep respect, admiration and solid friendship that continues to grow stronger throughout their journey. Family has always

been central to their life together—daughter Virginia Wells; grandson Andrew and his wife Heather; and great-granddaughter Caroline. We stand in celebration of the wedding anniversary of Ralph and Eleanor Locher—the spirit of love within their union is cause for celebration and is an inspiration to us all.

"Love is the river of life in the world"—Henry Ward Beecher.

#### HONORING GUY REDMOND

#### HON. MARTIN FROST

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 26, 2003*

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege today to recognize an outstanding engineer from my district. Mr. William Guy Redmond, Jr., recently celebrated the remarkable accomplishment of over 50 years of service to Lockheed Martin Missiles and Fire Control in Dallas, Texas.

Guy Redmond came to what was then Chance Vought Aircraft Company as a young man after serving in the U.S. Navy and receiving degrees from SMU and MIT. Over the years, Guy has amassed over 20 patents. He is highly respected by all for his integrity and technical expertise and unwavering dedication to his organization.

In 1983, Guy was recognized through a nomination for the coveted IEEE Pioneer award for his contributions to the company and the community.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize Guy Redmond again today for his enormous accomplishments at Lockheed Martin and offer my heartiest congratulations on his 51st anniversary. I'm sure the members of this body will agree with me that 50 years of constancy and dedication is a feat not accomplished by many, and I wish him great success in his future endeavors.

#### CONDEMNING TERRORISM INFLICTED ON ISRAEL SINCE AQABA SUMMIT AND EXPRESSING SOLIDARITY WITH THE ISRAELI PEOPLE

SPEECH OF

#### HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 25, 2003*

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of this resolution and join my colleagues in condemning the ongoing Palestinian terrorist attacks that threaten to derail the renewed effort to bring Israelis and Palestinians back to the peace process.

Since the Aqaba summit, 22 Israeli civilians have been murdered in terrorist attacks even as the Israeli Government has taken measures to release Palestinian prisoners, dismantle settlement outposts, allow Palestinian workers back into Israel and transfer revenue funds to the Palestinian treasury.

This is not a cycle of violence. This is a cycle of terrorism where Hamas and Islamic Jihad bargain for a "ceasefire" so they can buy time to regroup and rearm.

I was shocked, therefore, to hear President Bush condemn Israel's attack on Hamas lead-

er Abdel Aziz Rantisi and Secretary of State Powell speak out against Israel's attempt to arrest other Hamas operatives.

Although the Israelis are willing to take risks for peace, they have every right as a sovereign state to defend their vital interests. The United States, as a nation engaged in the global war on terrorist groups, should stand firmly with Israel on this issue. The same coffers that fund Al Qaeda funnel money and weapons to Hamas and Islamic Jihad, and the same state sponsors of terrorism that arm Hezbollah and smuggle mortars, explosives, and weapons into Gaza.

I stand with the President's in support of a two state solution that will bring security and stability to the region. The reality is, however, that the future of the Road Map depends on the direction of the Palestinian leadership. Although newly appointed Palestinian Prime Minister Mahmood Abbas faces challenges, he has the ability to move in the direction of peace by shutting off the constant stream of anti-Israeli hatred and incitement on Palestinian television and newspapers.

Likewise, it is the responsibility of the Arab states, the European Union, Russia, and the United Nations to support Prime Minister Abbas by joining the United States in isolating Arafat and shutting down the financing of terrorist networks that seek to undermine Palestinian reform.

The Road Map for peace requires all parties involved to maintain a commitment to these principles and to understand that the cessation of terrorism is the first step toward that vision.

#### JAMES AND ANN MCENTEE HONORED FOR YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE PEOPLE OF SANTA CLARA COUNTY

#### HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

#### HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

#### HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 26, 2003*

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, today Mr. HONDA, Ms. ESHOO, and I rise to recognize the achievements of Jim and Ann McEntee for their contributions to Santa Clara County. Jim McEntee is retiring as the Director of the Office of Human Relations after 27 years of dedicated service to the people of Santa Clara County and Ann is retiring after 40 years in teaching.

Jim and Ann have been happily married for 30 years during which time they have served the community as a team. He and his wife Ann, a teacher, have raised a large multicultural family.

Jim's first career was as a Roman Catholic priest, during which he served as an Associate Pastor in the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of San Francisco for 16 years before working for Santa Clara County.

Jim has a long history of building bridges between communities, bringing programs and services to the people in Santa Clara County. He is a founding member of the Confederation de la Raza Unida, founding chairperson of the Second Harvest Food Bank of Santa Clara

County, a founding member of the Emergency Housing Consortium and the Help House the Homeless Coalition. Jim has also worked very closely with the United Farm Workers of America since 1965.

Jim and Ann worked together to help organize and actively promote many community activities that serve to promote an appreciation of local ethnic cultures, e.g. The Martin Luther King Celebration, Cinco de Mayo Celebration, and the Tet Festival. They also take a leadership role in promoting social justice in the community through a church-based organization called "Just Faith."

Ann has dedicated her career to teaching, and for the past 11 years she has taught Special Education at Lee Mathson Middle School where she reaches out to students and families by making regular home visits. Ann also developed a school dispute resolution program at Lee Mathson to help students develop the skills to resolve their problems constructively and peacefully.

We wish to thank Jim and Ann McEntee for their tireless service to the County and wish them the best in their future endeavors. Furthermore, they have our personal thanks for our years of friendship. Though we will miss their compassion, expertise and commitment, their dedication has left its mark on Santa Clara County.

#### CONDEMNING TERRORISM INFLICTED ON ISRAEL SINCE AQABA SUMMIT AND EXPRESSING SOLIDARITY WITH THE ISRAELI PEOPLE

SPEECH OF

#### HON. ERIC CANTOR

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 25, 2003*

Mr. CANTOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to support H. Res. 294, and I thank Mr. DELAY for scheduling this important resolution this week.

On June 4, 2003, President Bush, Prime Minister Sharon, and Prime Minister Abbas came together to pledge their commitment to the "Road Map" to Peace. At this summit, Mr. Abbas promised to reign in the terror groups that have plagued Israel with 3 years of relentless terror. Since this summit, 29 Israelis have been murdered and over 120 have been wounded in terrorist attacks by Palestinian organizations such as Hamas, Islamic Jihad, and Yasser Arafat's own Fatah. In all, the Israeli defense forces have counted 319 separate attacks on soldiers and civilians.

Mr. Speaker, the United States sustained a horrifying terrorist attack on September 11, 2001, and responded rightfully by pursuing and attacking those responsible for the cowardly murder of innocent civilians on American soil. Israel has lived with a perpetual September 11 since its inception and must be allowed to pursue those who wish to murder innocent Israeli civilians. The terrorist actions of the last few weeks demonstrate that these organizations are not interested in peace, but rather the complete eradication of the State of Israel. We must condemn those who use terror against civilians as a means to destroy freedom and peace.

Israel, like the United States, was founded on the common values of democracy, freedom, and peace. Today, I reiterate that we

must stand by Israel, our strongest ally in the Middle East, in its fight against the terrorist organizations that seek to destroy the peace. We must maintain our commitment to Israel's security and the safety of its citizens.

Peace must come with security, not in spite of it. Israel has always made a sincere commitment to peace in the region. Many times its commitment to peace has come at the expense of innocent life. Before the process can move forward, we must compel the Palestinian authority to take immediate and effective steps to dismantle the terrorist infrastructure on the West Bank and Gaza Strip. Only then can we come to a peaceful solution of this conflict in which Israel, the Jewish State, can live side by side with a democratic Palestinian State in peace and security.

TRIBUTE TO MAYOR PAUL  
BAUMUNK

**HON. PHILIP M. CRANE**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 26, 2003*

Mr. CRANE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the mayor of Lindenhurst, Illinois, Paul Baumunk, whose outstanding leadership and commitment to community service has significantly benefited the people of Lindenhurst.

A longtime resident of Lindenhurst, Mayor Paul Baumunk served as a teacher in Lake County for 31 years, both with the Lake Forest High School and the College of Lake County Vocational Center. He also served as a member of the Lindenhurst Plan Commission and the Lindenhurst Lakes Commission. In addition, Paul somehow found the time to participate in the Chamber of Commerce, the Lindenhurst Men's Club, the Lyons Club and in VFW Post #4894.

Although he has always been a devoted public servant, Paul has always held his family as a top priority. He and Joy, his wife of 32 years, originally settled in the community of Lindenhurst in 1977 to raise their son Philip and daughter Amy. Paul's retirement will allow him to spend more time with his family, something he will greatly cherish.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in congratulating Mayor Paul Baumunk on his retirement after 12 years of diligent service to the Village of Lindenhurst, Illinois. Paul has been a valuable member of the community for which he cares so deeply, and his service will be greatly missed. I wish him the best of luck in future endeavors, and I know he will enjoy his retirement for many years to come.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. ERNIE FLETCHER**

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 26, 2003*

Mr. FLETCHER. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday, June 25, 2003, had I been present for Rollcall Vote No.'s 312, 313, 314, 315, 316, and 317, I would have voted the following way: Rollcall Vote No. 312, S. 858—"Yea;" Rollcall Vote No. 313, H.R. 2474—"Yea;" Roll-

call Vote No. 314, H.J. Res. 49—"Yea;" Rollcall Vote No. 315, H. Con. Res. 49—"Yea;" Rollcall Vote No. 316, H. Res. 199—"Yea;" Rollcall Vote No. 317, H. Res. 294—"Yea."

THE U.S. SUPREME COURT DECISION ON AFFIRMATIVE ACTION IN HIGHER EDUCATION

**HON. HILDA L. SOLIS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 26, 2003*

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to applaud the Supreme Court's decision to uphold affirmative action. The Court's ruling this week was a tremendous victory for all those who believe that diversity is one of our nation's greatest strengths.

The historical significance of this important ruling cannot be underestimated. For millions of minority students—Latino, African-American, Native American—it means the opportunity at a better education, higher wages, and a promising future.

The Court's ruling is especially important to Latinos, our nation's fastest growing and now largest minority group. Fewer than 10 percent of college-age Latinos pursue higher education. Only 16 percent of Latinos between the ages of 25–29 have bachelor's degrees. Clearly, many challenges remain to increase Latino enrollment at colleges and universities across the country. Affirmative action is key to breaking down the barriers to higher education for Latinos.

Affirmative action is not only beneficial to minority students, but also to non-minority students. Greater diversity on our college campuses ultimately produces students who are better equipped to thrive in an economy and society that is increasingly multicultural. As Justice O'Connor noted in the Court's decision, the future of our nation relies on leaders who are comfortable with "diverse people, cultures, ideas and viewpoints." O'Connor was most likely influenced in her opinion by an unlikely coalition of business, military, civil rights, and education groups that urged the Court to uphold affirmative action because it produces leaders who are prepared for today's increasingly global economy.

The country's highest court has ruled that race may be a factor in college admissions because the nation has a compelling need for racial and ethnic diversity on our college campuses. The ruling calls into question race-neutral affirmative action plans used in several states, including my own state of California where there has been a 39 percent increase in the rejection of Latino freshman applicants to California public universities since the state's race-neutral plan was implemented. Given the Supreme Court's decision, I hope California will review and revise its affirmative action policies so that public universities in my state truly reflect the state's very diverse population. The Court has spoken about the importance of diversity. Now should California.

Throughout the United States, there are millions of Latinos and Latinas who want to succeed. They want equal educational and economic opportunities. The Court's ruling provides great hope for these young people. Again, I applaud the Court for this landmark decision.

CONDEMNING TERRORISM INFLICTED ON ISRAEL SINCE AQABA SUMMIT AND EXPRESSING SOLIDARITY WITH THE ISRAELI PEOPLE

SPEECH OF

**HON. RON KIND**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 25, 2003*

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my concern over the recent terrorism conducted by Palestinian extremists against the citizens of the state of Israel. This comes just weeks after a groundbreaking summit where both Palestinians and Israelis came together and agreed to the Road Map to Peace. It is most unfortunate that one small sect of extremists shake the relationship between the two.

My colleagues and I mourn the loss of 22 innocent Israeli citizens who have fallen victim to this terror since the summit. In addition, we mourn the loss of the dozens of civilian Palestinians who have also died as a result of terrorism. These lives, I believe, should also be mentioned.

Mr. Speaker, I will vote in favor of this measure today, but I think we missed a great opportunity to send a clear message that this Congress is fully committed, along with the President, in support of the Roadmap for Peace. The Roadmap recognizes the importance of including both Israelis and Palestinians in establishing much desired peace in the region. While the Roadmap may have its flaws, I believe it is the only way to get both parties back on the track to peace.

The people of the United States stand firm in our commitment to the security and health of a democratic Israel. We must continue to do all we can to promote negotiations to advance the peace process in the Middle East. Together we can root out the terrorism that plagues the region and move forward with one goal in mind, peace.

TRIBUTE TO FRAN AND MARIE  
BONNER

**HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 26, 2003*

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize two very exceptional people I am proud to call my constituents as they reach a milestone that has become more and more rare in today's world. Fran and Marie Bonner recently celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary. Even more uncommon is their steadfast dedication to public service, giving back to their community and fellow citizens. I am honored to highlight the achievements of two people who have contributed so much to Northeastern Pennsylvania.

Francis Peter Bonner and Marie Ann Clatch were engaged on Christmas day in 1961. They met in 1959 at The Madison Restaurant in Hazleton when Fran was registering Marie to vote. His first words to her were "Are you registered to vote?" When she said no he promptly registered her as a Democrat, and she has been both his girl and a Democrat ever since.

Marie, daughter of Fred Clatch and Jenny Corra was married to Francis, son of Miles Bonner and Mary Hannigan, on June 23, 1963 by Father Thomas Hannigan, at Our Lady of Grace Church in Hazleton. They have been Pennsylvania residents all of their married lives. First in Secane, then in Berwyn, then in Harrisburg and now in Hazleton. They have a daughter, Mary Patricia, who currently resides in Washington, DC with her husband Roy Eichler.

Marie and Fran have led remarkable lives in the arena of public service. Marie has been a homemaker all her life and very active in her daughter's school and after school programs. She has done a considerable amount of volunteer work for both the Harrisburg School system and St. Margaret Mary's Church. She remains a terrific role model for the many children she has encountered throughout her volunteering career.

Fran has been extremely active in local and state government, serving in a senior position in Governor Milton Schapp's Administration and later on the Unemployment Compensation Board during the Governor Robert Casey's Administration. He has been extremely active in the Hazleton Community serving as the Chairman of St. Joseph's Hospital Board, and as a Trustee for the Anthracite Health and Welfare Fund for 15 years. It is no surprise he was bestowed the honor of "Hazletonian of the Year."

Fran also served on the White House ad-hoc Anthracite committee in 1980 and was a Member of the Marketing Panel for the Governor's Coal Conference that same year. In 1977 he was a member of the United States Department of Energy Anthracite Task Force and throughout the 1970s he served on both the Governor's Energy Council and the Pennsylvania Industrial Development Authority. He has been active in the Philadelphia Fellowship Commission and the Hazleton City Planning and Zoning board. He was also the Deputy State Chairman of the Democratic State Committee and the Assistant Director of the Urban Studies Program at the University of Villanova.

The Pennsylvania House of Representatives recognized Fran for directing the recovery efforts of the Kocher mine disaster in 1976. He has testified on the advancement of anthracite coal before both the U.S. Congress and Pennsylvania Legislature.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to showcase the achievements of these two special residents of Pennsylvania's 11th Congressional District and ask my colleagues to join me both in celebrating their 40 years of marriage and in wishing them many more happy years together.

**RECOGNIZING CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER DAVID WILLIAMS, U.S. ARMY APACHE HELICOPTER PILOT AND PRISONER OF WAR, ON HIS VALIANT BRAVERY OVERSEAS**

**HON. J. RANDY FORBES**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 26, 2003*

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Chief Warrant Officer David Williams, U.S. Army Apache helicopter pilot who was a Prisoner of War during Operation Iraqi

Freedom. Iraqi forces detained him for 21 days as a POW after his helicopter was grounded near Karbala, Iraq. Williams valiantly fought and survived imprisonment after being captured.

Chief Warrant Officer Williams moved to Hampton Roads in 1981 with his family and grew up in Chesapeake, Virginia. From early childhood, David was always enthralled with planes and the magic of air flight. After graduating from Great Bridge High School in Chesapeake, Williams enrolled in community college and joined the Army as a full time reservist. After spending two years as a crew chief on a med-evac Huey helicopter, Williams searched for a bigger challenge. He was assigned to the Army's 106th Special Operations Aviation Regiment and also went through Survival, Evasion, Resistance and Escape school while traveling the world doing preparatory combat missions.

Next week, we will welcome back David Williams to his hometown of Chesapeake, Virginia with a host of events and celebrations for his heroic return. We are pleased to salute him for protecting our flag and our freedom. The Independence Day holiday is a perfect time to show our deep appreciation to this brave citizen and soldier who spent his childhood in the Fourth District of Virginia.

Williams showed tremendous bravery and commitment to his country while held by his Iraqi captors. Today we recognize him for his unwavering patriotism and dedication to both his job and the American people.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring Chief Warrant Officer David Williams for his bravery and dedication abroad, his service to Chesapeake, the Commonwealth of Virginia, and the American people.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. JIM SAXTON**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 26, 2003*

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, June 25, 2003, I was unable to cast my vote for roll-call numbers 312, 313, 314, 315, 316, and 317 due to the fact that I was attending a funeral for my dear friend from Arizona, Representative Bob Stump.

Had I been presented, I would have voted "aye" for all 6 votes.

#### LEGISLATION ADDRESSES SHOCKING PROBLEM OF PRISON RAPE

**HON. FRANK R. WOLF**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 26, 2003*

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I recently shared with our colleagues several personal accounts related by survivors of the brutal and inhumane act of sexual assault in our nation's prisons.

H.R. 1707, the Prison Rape Reduction Act of 2003, focuses attention on the growing problem of prison rape. I was pleased to co-author this legislation with my Virginia colleague, Rep. Bobby Scott. The bill is pending mark-up in the House Judiciary Committee

and we are hopeful that it will be on the House floor soon. I believe in being tough on crime. But this has nothing to do with being tough on crime. It has everything to do with human dignity and ending deliberate indifference toward sexual assaults in prisons, maintaining order in prisons, and reducing social and economic costs to a society left to deal with physically and psychologically damaged former inmates.

Today I want to share additional stories from those whose lives have been forever changed by the sexual assaults happening every day in the prisons in our country.

Imagine knowing that someone you love is being repeatedly raped, abused, and degraded and that there is little to nothing that you can do about it.

For the last two and a half years, my family and I have been paralyzed by this knowledge and our inability to stop the rape and abuse.

My name is Vivian Edwards and I am here to tell you about my nephew, Roderick Johnson. In my family, he goes by Keith.

Keith is a Navy veteran and was imprisoned in Marshall, Texas in January of 2000 for a non-violent crime. He wrote a \$300 check even though he knew that he did not have the funds to cover this amount, violating the terms of his parole for a burglary that he committed over 10 years ago.

From the beginning, my nephew knew that being a gay man put him at risk, so he informed prison officials that he was gay in hopes that he would be offered protection. My nephew was offered no protection. While at Allred, he was placed in the general population.

He might as well have been put in a lions' den. He was immediately given the name "CoCo" by the other inmates which made it clear to all inmates that he was available for sexual exploitation. The prison officials also began to call Keith by this nickname and would refer to him as "she" or "her."

Keith was raped by a member of the gang called 'Gangster Disciples' in early October 2000. My nephew informed prison officials about what had happened and that he feared for his life. He asked for medical attention. He was denied help and denied medical assistance. They told him that medical care was only available for an emergency. My nephew was raped! How can someone say that is not an emergency?

Soon after the rape, things just got worse for my nephew. Hernandez began 'sharing' Keith with other inmates, and Keith literally became a sex slave.

Keith wrote to several of his family members from prison. He was afraid to tell most of us that he was being severely sexually abused. But the letters started to change, and he eventually told us what was happening. I can still remember reading the words: "they make me do things I don't want to do" and just crying. He told us that he feared for his life.

We called the prison to find out what was going on. Staff at the prison said they would check into Keith's complaints. They said Keith's complaints didn't warrant an investigation but they would move him to another prison wing. He wasn't safe there either. Other family members and I continued to write and call on Keith's behalf, but nothing ever changed—he was never safe.

During a period of 18 months, Keith appeared before the classification committee of Allred seven times. Each time he asked to be put in protective custody, but his requests were denied each time.

Each time they denied Keith the protection that he so badly needed, he was sent back to the general population and raped and



forced to perform sexual acts against his will. I was traded between various gangs in prison—the Bloods, the Crips, the Tangos, the Mandingo Warriors—and sold out for \$5 and \$10 for sex acts.

By December of 2001, Keith feared for his life so much that he purposely incurred a serious disciplinary violation. He was given the maximum punishment and received 15 days in solitary confinement. Ironically, this was the first and only protection that he ever received while at Allred. Sadly, though, this punishment also included extending his sentence for more than two more years past the date that he would have been eligible for release.

After Keith's seventh life endangerment claim, he began writing the ACLU and other outside organizations for assistance. The ACLU National Prison Project came to his rescue. They filed a federal lawsuit on behalf of my nephew against several Texas prison officials that ignored his pleas for protection against gangs who forced him into sexual slavery.

Keith had asked us to pray for him, and we did. Our prayers were finally answered. He was moved to a safety protection unit soon after the ACLU National Prison Project filed the lawsuit.

Keith has tested negative for HIV, but still lives in constant fear that he might have contracted other diseases from countless forced sex incidents. Prison rape is a serious crime that not only affects the victim, but also the family. As I said before, my entire family has been horrified and devastated for the past two and a half years because of what has happened to Keith. Today we are praying for Keith, but we are also fighting for him and for every other prisoner that has been a victim of rape while in prison as well.

I have tried to write this story many times, only to find myself in tears at the thought of recounting the events. But now, years later, I am finding the courage, little by little, to speak out. I pray that this courage will be with me today.

My name is Hope. In July 1997 I was incarcerated following an arrest for a drug related offense. I had been sent to a rehab facility in Virginia, but because of my extreme withdrawal symptoms from heroin and cocaine, they pulled me out of this facility and sent me, instead, to jail.

I was sent to the DC jail on no particular charges, but simply because I needed medical attention and was pending indictment. From the DC jail, I was transferred to a medical unit at CCA (a privately contracted jail adjacent to DC jail). This was where anyone with medical concerns, pregnancy, injury, extreme illness, or other debilitating circumstances was sent.

The unit consisted of male and female inmates. When I got there, I was surprised to realize that male guards were on staff guarding the mixed population. Male guards were allowed to watch us changing, showering, and using the toilet.

Also to my surprise, male and female inmates were allowed recreational time together on this unit. I met a woman pregnant with her third child all of which were conceived in jail.

I was denied a shower for more than 2 weeks. When I finally was permitted to have one, the guard came to get me at 3 a.m. He took me to a private, hospital-type room. He proposed I smoke a cigarette with him (smoking was not permitted in this facility). I smoked with him, and this he thought allowed him access to rape me. He attacked me while I was showering.

I was terrified, and I didn't know what to do. I was in terrible physical condition because of my withdrawal, and I didn't know who would believe me.

Then, it happened again on a subsequent night. I was dosed up on the psych meds that had been prescribed to aid with my withdrawal symptoms. Again, he took me to the shower, and raped me. I was defenseless, and mentally and physically weakened by the drugs. The nurses were asleep in their station 20 feet up the hall, and the relieving guard was on break.

Afterwards, he gave me back my paper jumpsuit. I was putting it on when another guard entered the room and became extremely suspicious. You'd think this eye-witness would have been enough to prosecute him. But it wasn't. An "inconclusive" rape test conducted after my shower meant there was no follow-up.

Since then, my hands have been tied. I have not been able to prosecute the rapist. I have had no avenue for seeking justice.

Since my release, I have tried to move on with my life. I am married, I have three children, and I am in school studying to be a Social Worker with a specialty in addictions rehabilitation. But the pain of this experience comes back to me often. I am still struggling to put it behind me.

To my rapist, I say God will be your judge. I practice daily forgiveness when the mind numbing thoughts won't go away. I pray and I pray to help me get through this. I keep praying because it's my life.

I will never forget that night in March of 2000.

That was the night I was raped by a federal prison guard.

My name is Marilyn Shirley and I am here today as living proof that prisoner rape does happen.

I was convicted of a drug charge and placed in the Federal Medical Center at Carswell in Fort Worth, Texas from January 12, 1998 until September 10, 2000.

While in prison, I took all of the required Bureau of Prisons courses—from substance abuse prevention classes to classes that taught me job skills. I never once had an incident report written against me. In fact, I was rewarded with time credited for good behavior. Upon my release, I walked away with a \$250 check from the Bureau of Prisons and a permanently devastated emotional and mental state as a result of my rape.

On that night in March 2000, I was woken up at approximately 3:30 a.m. by prison guard Michael Miller, a Senior Officer of the Bureau of Prisons. He told me, in the presence of my roommates, that I was wanted at the officer's station.

I was scared to death that they'd called me because something had happened to my husband who had heart problems and diabetes, or to my twins.

I could not have been more wrong. I should have feared for my own safety. After entering the officer's station, Miller made a phone call stating that if a Lieutenant heads for the Camp to give him the "signal."

After hanging up the phone, Miller started forcing himself on me, kissing me and groping my breasts. I was pushed into a store-room where supplies were kept for the inmates. He continued to assault me; the more that I begged and pleaded for him to stop, the more violent he became. He tried to force me to perform oral sex on him. He then threw me against the wall and violently raped me.

I can still remember him whispering in my ear during the rape: "Do you think you're the only one? Don't even think of telling, because it's your word against mine, and you will lose." Miller also said to me "who do you think they will believe, an inmate or a fine upstanding officer like me?"

The ordeal was finally over after Miller received the abrupt signal of someone clearing

their throat over his radio, signaling that someone was coming. I later learned there are no security cameras in the officer's station.

After returning to my room, I took off my sweatpants and put them in plastic and hid them in my locker.

Soon after, I confided in an Officer of the Bureau of Prisons, who was my welding boss, that Officer Miller had raped me. I asked her not to tell anyone because I didn't want anything to interfere with my release date, as I was afraid of what Miller would do to me if I reported it. I also told one of my roommates, and I swore her to secrecy, too.

I stayed silent for months. Having nowhere to hide, I went to sleep every night not knowing if he was going to come for me again. Following the rape, Officer Miller harassed, intimidated and threatened me in many direct and indirect ways.

I lived in fear, until I was released from prison in September 2000. That day, I brought my sweatpants to the Carswell camp administrator and told her about the rape. I gave statements and answered questions. The semen stained sweatpants were taken as evidence to the FBI Crime Lab. I was then given a lie detector test, which I passed.

Just recently, about three years after my release, a federal jury found Officer Miller guilty of rape finding that my civil rights were indeed violated. Meanwhile, Michael Miller is still under criminal investigation. I owe a lot to my attorneys who believed in me and my family who supported me.

Miller has continued to work as a corrections officer with the Federal Bureau of Prisons. Even after I reported the rape, he was only transferred to a men's prison. I cannot believe that this rapist is getting paid with people's tax dollars; it's not right.

Back in 1998, preparing to enter prison was one of the hardest things that I ever had to do. But, now that I am out, I am left with paralyzing panic attacks, awful nightmares, and a terrible state of depression all of the time.

Rape should not have been part of my punishment. Though I am still struggling with the emotional damage I have suffered from this rape, it is important for me to speak out. With God's help, I get strength from knowing that if I refuse to remain silent, maybe others won't have to suffer this way. Thank you for listening, and, please, let's work together to end this injustice.

TRIBUTE TO DR. ISRAEL "IKE"  
TRIBBLE, JR.

HON. JIM DAVIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 26, 2003

Mr. DAVIS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Dr. Israel "Ike" Tribble, Jr., a remarkable man who dedicated his whole life to equipping African-American young people in our community, our state and our country with the educational tools they need to succeed in their personal and professional lives.

Ike had an amazing ability to see the good in everyone, and he knew that education was the key to fully unlocking everyone's God-given potential. After earning a masters in school administration and a doctorate in administration and policy analysis, Ike began a career focused on promoting higher education opportunities for all people.

Ike first blessed Floridians with his talents in 1982 when he moved to Tallahassee to serve

as associate vice chancellor for academic programs for the Florida Board of Regents. From there he was recruited to start the Florida Education Fund, a program designed to help African-Americans earn doctorates and law degrees. During his 17 years leading the Fund to new heights, Ike helped thousands of young people on their path to higher education.

When Ike was not working long hours at the Fund, he was devoting his energies to a host of other civic boards and committees. He served on the Advisory Committee on the Education of Blacks in Florida and as Chairman of the Board of Commissioners of the Tampa Housing Authority. As the first African-American chairman of the Greater Tampa Chamber of Commerce, Ike was responsible for making the board more representative of our diverse business community and focusing business and community leaders on the virtues of educating our young people.

In 1999, Ike was diagnosed with acute leukemia. Ike faced his illness with the same courage and positive attitude that he applied to all other facets of his life. Through chemotherapy and multiple transplants, Ike fought to the end, and he never stopped giving back to his community.

I consider it the highest honor, privilege and joy to have called Ike Tribble my dear friend and a mentor. Ike's passion and commitment to improving the lives of those around him was unsurpassed. Like so many touched by Ike, I will forever be inspired by Ike's compelling example, his wisdom and his zest for life.

On behalf of the Tampa Bay community, which so greatly benefitted from Ike's life work, I would like to extend my deepest sympathies to the Tribble family.

THE HISPANIC RESOURCE CENTER  
IN THE CITY OF KENNER, LOUISIANA

**HON. DAVID VITTER**

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 26, 2003*

Mr. VITTER. Mr. Speaker, today the City of Kenner crowns its celebration of June as Hispanic Heritage Month with the grand opening of its Hispanic Resource Center, the first of its kind in Louisiana. I am honored to recognize this landmark event in my district.

The Hispanic Resource Center will provide valuable services ranging from citizenship courses and homebuyers' training to computer tutorials and classes in English as a Second Language. In addition to offering specific programs that address real needs, the Center will serve as a facilitator to put Hispanic residents in touch with local agencies and organizations that can help with legal advice, health care, and other concerns.

I would like to congratulate Mayor Louis Congemi and the members of the Kenner City Council for their role in creating this important institution. Mayor Congemi is to be commended for his leadership in guiding the development of the Resource Center from initial idea to grand opening.

The Hispanic Resource Center proclaims and symbolizes the vitality of the Hispanic community in Kenner. I am confident that the Center will make a meaningful difference in the lives of many who hope in America's

promise and pursue the American dream. I am pleased to extend my best wishes to all of those involved in the work of the Hispanic Resource Center upon this happy occasion.

HONORING SUSAN BOOTH FOR HER  
OUTSTANDING COMMITMENT TO  
PUBLIC SERVICE

**HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 26, 2003*

Mr. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to join the many gathered to pay tribute to an outstanding member of our community, Susan Booth, as she is honored by the Devon Rotary and named a Paul Harris Fellow. The Paul Harris Fellow recognition was created in memory of Paul Harris, the founder of Rotary as a way to show appreciation for contributions to the Foundation's charitable and educational program. Every Paul Harris Fellow receives a pin, medallion and a certificate when he or she becomes a Fellow, identifying the recipient as an advocate of the Foundation's goals of world peace and international understanding. The commitment and dedication that Susan has demonstrated is indeed a reflection of all that the Rotary stands for. It is wonderful to see her work so proudly recognized by her community.

Founder of the Archway Foundation, Susan has spent nearly fifteen years collecting donations to feed and clothe homeless children in Romania. Inspired by a television program about Romanian orphans abandoned when communism collapsed, Susan, a railroad conductor on a commuter train between Connecticut and New York's Grand Central Station, switched to night shifts so that she could earn a master's degree in Social Work. Upon completing her degree, Susan went to Bucharest on a week's vacation in search of these Romanian orphans who were living in sewers and abandoned buildings. With only a short list of contacts, Susan was fortunate to find an individual who knew where to look. "In that sewer, I found my life's work," she has said. Indeed, she has dedicated countless hours to her mission.

Operating out of her own home and a post office box, Susan collects clothing and donations and has been awarded hundreds of thousands in charitable grants. Through her hard work and the generosity of her contributors, Archway has been able to purchase two small homes in Romania as well as employ several Romanians. One of the homes is used as a soup kitchen from which volunteers take food out to hundreds of homeless children every week and provides groceries to squatter families who take refuge in abandoned buildings.

It is not often that you find an individual with such dedication and commitment. Susan's good work has touched the lives of thousands of needy children. More importantly, she has inspired countless numbers of people to donate their time and energy to provide one of life's most precious gifts—hope.

I am proud to stand today to join the Devon Rotary and the many family and friends who have gathered this evening in extending my sincere thanks and heart-felt congratulations

to Susan Booth as she is named a Paul Harris Fellow. Yours is a legacy that is sure to continue to inspire generations to come.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 26, 2003*

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise to offer a personal explanation. On June 23, 2003, I was absent from the Chamber as I attended my son's high school graduation. During that time, I was not present to vote on rollcall votes 297, 298, 299, and 300. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall votes 297–300.

HONORING THE CAREER OF  
CHARLOTTE LESSER

**HON. JANE HARMAN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 26, 2003*

Ms. HARMAN. Speaker, in the course of my career as a public official I have been privileged to work with some truly remarkable people—often unsung heroes who contribute every day, unselfishly and unwaveringly, to the health and well-being of our communities. One such person is my friend and constituent Charlotte Lesser, and I rise today on the occasion of her retirement as Director of Health Education at the Beach Cities Health District (BCHD) to commend her for her many achievements and contributions.

For 10 years, Charlotte Lesser has successfully spearheaded BCHD efforts to provide critical assistance to South Bay citizens in need. Under her leadership, BCHD has developed organizations and services that promote health education activities and fitness awareness for the residents of Manhattan Beach, Redondo Beach and Hermosa Beach.

And as is the case with so many local leaders, Ms. Lesser volunteered her time to strengthen South Bay communities through her involvement with the South Bay Family Healthcare Center, the South Bay Youth Project, the Wellness Community, and the South Bay Coalition for Alcohol and Drug-Free Youth.

In addition to her work as a champion of local health care services, Charlotte Lesser chaired the Redondo Beach Chamber of Commerce and founded and directed the Manhattan Beach Neighborhood Watch.

In recognition of her unwavering commitment to the community, in 1999, Charlotte Lesser was named Los Angeles County Woman of the Year. But Charlotte is also my trusted friend and has been a wonderful resource to my staff and me.

Mr. President, I join the community in thanking Charlotte Lesser for her years of service and accomplishment, for they are evidence of her dedication and boundless energy. Although she is retiring from BCHD, her achievements will not end there. I look forward to her upcoming appointment to the Los Angeles County Commission for Women. I know she will continue to be an active leader and community advocate.

INTRODUCING THE REBUILD  
AMERICA ACT OF 2003

**HON. JAMES L. OBERSTAR**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 26, 2003*

Mr. OBERSTAR. Mr. Speaker, today Cong. JERRY COSTELLO, LINCOLN DAVIS, other Members of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and I have introduced the "Rebuild America Act of 2003".

In the 107th Congress, the Democrats on Transportation and Infrastructure Committee introduced similar legislation to invest in the safety and security of the Nation's infrastructure. At that time, we were alarmed by the negative effects that the policies of the Bush Administration were having on our Nation's economy. Now, almost two years later, our concerns have been proven correct.

Figures released earlier this month show that the national unemployment rate has increased from 4.2 percent in January 2001 to 6.1 percent, the highest level since July 1994. Further since January 2001, the number of people unemployed has increased from 5.95 million to 9 million—an increase of more than 3 million, or more than 50 percent.

Moreover, workers who have lost their jobs are having more trouble finding new jobs. The average length of unemployment is now almost 20 weeks, the longest it has been in nearly two decades. In the past two years, the number of workers who have been unemployed for longer than six months has increased by 1.3 million to nearly 1.9 million—an increase of more than 216 percent. One-half of the unemployed are out of work for more than 10 weeks and one in five have been out of work for more than six months.

The response of the Bush Administration has been tax breaks for the wealthy. And once those are enacted into law, pass more tax breaks for the wealthy. The Administration could have developed a bipartisan plan to use the surplus it inherited to invest in our Nation's infrastructure, shore up the Social Security Trust Fund, and pay down the national debt, however, it has squandered each of those opportunities. Instead, the Administration continues to pursue policies that favor only a small portion of the population (the ultra-wealthy) and push our economy further and further into debt and recession. As the economy continues to founder, the need for legislation that will create jobs has become even more apparent.

Unlike the Republican "trickle down" approach to the economy, the Rebuild America Act of 2003 stimulates the economy by creating jobs—especially jobs in nonresidential construction—and rebuilding our Nation's infrastructure. This bill provides \$50 billion to enhance the safety, security, and efficiency of our Nation's infrastructure, including improvements to rail, highway, transit, aviation, maritime, water resources, environmental, and public building infrastructure. By leveraging Federal infrastructure investments, the 10-year cost to the Federal Treasury would be less than \$34 billion.

Moreover, the bill fully offsets this \$34 billion cost to the Treasury by cracking down on abusive corporate tax shelters (e.g., Enron), preventing American corporations from avoiding paying U.S. taxes by moving to a foreign country, and extending customs user fees.

According to the U.S. Department of Transportation, each \$1 billion in new infrastructure investment creates 47,500 jobs and \$6.2 billion in economic activity. The bill will create more than two million jobs—virtually eliminating the job losses that have occurred since the Bush Administration came into office—and restore more than \$310 billion to our economy. Moreover, in the wake of the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks, the bill gives priority to infrastructure investments that focus on enhanced security for our Nation's transportation and environmental infrastructure systems.

By ensuring that the funds are invested in ready-to-go projects, the bill will provide a much-needed jumpstart to our economy. The bill provides funds for each of the critical areas of our Nation's transportation and environmental infrastructure, including: \$8 billion for highways and transit; \$3 billion for airports; \$21.5 billion for rail including high-speed rail, freight rail, and Amtrak; \$13 billion for environmental infrastructure including wastewater, drinking water, wet weather, and Corps of Engineers projects; \$2.5 billion for port security; and \$2 billion for economic development and public buildings.

In addition, this infrastructure investment will increase business productivity by reducing the costs of producing goods in virtually all industrial sectors of the economy. Increased productivity results in increased demand for labor, capital, and raw materials and generally leads to lower product prices and increased sales. Also, the bill takes into account the fiscal crises that the states are currently facing and allows recipients of the funds an extended period of time to meet their state and local match requirements.

Simply put, this bill will strengthen the fabric of our Nation's infrastructure while creating jobs for the millions of people who have lost their jobs under the Bush Administration. This investment will specifically help unemployed construction workers. The number of unemployed private construction workers is 715,000—an 80 percent increase over the comparable period in the last year of the Clinton Administration. The unemployment rate for construction workers is now 8.4 percent, more than 68 percent higher than the rate in May 2000. A recent national survey found that transportation construction contractors hire employees within three weeks of obtaining a project contract. These employees begin receiving paychecks within two weeks of hiring. By giving priority to those projects that can award bids within 90 days of enactment, the bill ensures that this money is readily dispersed to needed projects that will get people working again.

This investment will also help address the disproportionate effect that the increase in unemployment has had on people of color. The rate of unemployment for African Americans is 10.8 percent—twice the rate for whites. The unemployment rate for Hispanic Americans is 8.2 percent—more than 50 percent higher than the rate for whites. Under the existing highway, transit, and aviation laws, as a general rule, states, cities, and transportation authorities are required to provide at least 10 percent of the amounts made available to disadvantaged Business Enterprises, including minority- and women-owned businesses.

There are thousands of projects that are ready to begin construction in all sectors of our transportation and infrastructure systems.

For example, a survey of the state Departments of Transportation by the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials found that, as of April 2003, the states have 2,710 projects, totaling \$17.1 billion, that are ready to go to construction within 90 days if additional funding is made available.

Accordingly, the bill provides \$5 billion in additional authority for Federal-aid highway capital investments and gives states the authority to obligate \$5 billion of existing budget authority (contract authority) in state highway accounts. This proposal would create more than 237,500 jobs and \$31 billion of economic activity.

Similarly, a survey of transit authorities by the American Public Transportation Association found that public transportation authorities have \$12 billion in projects that are ready to go to construction within 90 days if additional funding is made available. Accordingly, the bill provides \$3 billion in transit and operating grants and would create more than 142,500 jobs and \$18.6 billion of economic activity.

In aviation, an Airport Council International survey of airport authorities estimates that \$5 billion is needed to install explosive detection systems at U.S. airports. In addition, the Federal Aviation Administration has deferred millions of dollars for airport capacity and safety projects because of the diversion of airport improvement program (AIP) funds to security projects. To address these issues, the bill provides \$3 billion for airport development projects, including \$2 billion for AIP grants to enhance airport safety, efficiency, and capacity, and \$1 billion for airport security grants to reconfigure airports to accommodate explosive detection systems. This proposal would create more than 142,500 jobs and \$18.6 billion of economic activity.

In the area of high-speed rail, there are currently several corridors that are completing environmental analyses of high-speed rail projects and are ready to go to construction. The bill provides funding for these projects through the issuance of \$14 billion in tax credit bonds for construction of infrastructure and the acquisition of rolling stock for two high-speed rail corridors. This proposal would create more than 665,000 jobs and \$86 billion of economic activity.

For passenger rail, Amtrak has identified approximately \$8 billion of capital needs for the reconstruction and rehabilitation of the Northeast Corridor and other station upgrades and for the acquisition and rehabilitation of rolling stock. With regard to the infrastructure needs of short line and regional railroads, a recent study concluded that it will take approximately \$7 billion of capital investment to rehabilitate the track, bridges, and other elements of their infrastructure to enable them to carry the 286,000-pound railcar that is becoming the industry standard.

In order to address these needs, the bill provides \$7.5 billion for capital investment for passenger and freight rail, including: \$2.5 billion for capital investment for Amtrak; \$500 million for direct grants to short-line and regional railroads to improve their infrastructure; and \$250 million for grants to provide the credit risk premium for at least \$5 billion in loans and loan guarantees for freight railroad infrastructure projects under the Railroad Rehabilitation and Improvement Financing (RRIF) program. This proposal would create more

than 356,000 jobs and \$46.5 billion of economic activity.

Our Nation's environmental and infrastructure also has a backlog of important projects in need of funding. The Congressional Budget Office estimates that there is an annual investment need of between \$11.6 billion and \$20.1 billion to ensure a safe, clean supply of drinking water, and an additional need of an annual investment of between \$13 billion and \$20.9 billion in wastewater treatment. Further, a survey conducted by the Association of Metropolitan Sewerage Agencies found that, in just 58 communities, wastewater treatment facilities have more than \$4 billion of wastewater treatment projects that are ready to go to construction if funding is made available.

This bill provides a total of \$11.5 billion for wastewater and drinking water infrastructure investment, including: \$10 billion to construct, rehabilitate, and restore the Nation's wastewater and drinking water infrastructure through the existing State Revolving Fund (SRF) programs (\$8.5 billion for the Clean Water SRF and \$1.5 billion for the Safe Drinking Water SRF), and \$1.5 billion for wet weather overflow grants for planning, design, and construction of treatment works to address combined sewer and sanitary sewer overflows. This proposal would create more than 546,000 jobs and \$71 billion of economic activity.

In the area of marine transportation, the Coast Guard estimates that it will cost approximately \$6 billion over the next 10 years for ports and vessel owners to comply with security standards that the Coast Guard will prescribe under the Maritime Transportation Security Act. To date, only \$370 million has been appropriated to fund port security grants. In 2002, ports and marine facility operators submitted 712 proposals, totaling more than \$600 million, which were denied funding because of the lack of available resources. The requests for port security funding were seven times greater than the available funding.

This bill begins to address this funding shortfall by providing \$2.5 billion for port security grants to ports and marine facility operators for their costs to implement facility and port security plans pursuant to the Maritime Transportation Security Act of 2002. This proposal would create more than 118,000 jobs and \$15.5 billion of economic activity.

The Nation's water resources are also in need of investment to both protect and improve the quality water related infrastructure services, such as hydropower facilities, ports, dams, and water supply facilities. The Corps of Engineers has identified a need to assess and improve security at 372 critical infrastructure projects, and those efforts have not yet been completed. The Corps also has an unfunded operation and maintenance backlog of more than \$1 billion.

To address these needs, the bill provides \$1.5 billion to fund investment in currently authorized water resources infrastructure projects. This proposal would create more than 71,000 jobs and \$9.3 billion of economic activity.

There is also considerable unmet need in the area of economic development. Certain communities and regions of the country suffer from chronic economic distress. These communities and regions often have unemployment, poverty, and outmigration rates that are

more than 150 percent of the national average. These economically distressed communities and regions rely on federal investments to complete basic transportation and public infrastructure projects. The Economic Development Administration and existing regional commissions have no shortage of requests for assistance, but are woefully underfunded, and face drastic budget cuts under the Administration's FY2004 budget proposal.

This bill addresses this severe underfunding by providing \$1.5 billion in grants to economically distressed communities for economic development infrastructure projects. Grants are administered through the Economic Development Administration (\$1 billion), the Appalachian Regional Commission (\$150 million), the Delta Regional Authority (\$150 million), and the Northern Great Plains Regional Commission (\$150 million). This proposal would create more than 71,000 jobs and \$9.3 billion of economic activity.

Further, the General Services Administration (GSA)-controlled inventory of 1,860 existing Federal buildings is aging and requires extensive repair and renovation to ensure that Federal employees are housed in safe, modern facilities. GSA estimates that it needs \$5 billion over the next five years to fund the necessary repair, alterations, and rehabilitation of Federal buildings and it currently has approximately 5,500 work items pending for repair and alteration. The bill provides \$500 million for repair and alteration of Federal buildings and would create more than 23,000 jobs and \$3.1 billion of economic activity.

This package of infrastructure, transportation, and environmental investment and security enhancement makes sound economic sense. It provides funds where they are needed most and will get America working again. Our Nation needs an economic stimulus program that creates jobs in hard hit sectors of our economy, rehabilitates our basic infrastructure to allow us to remain competitive in world markets, addresses the infrastructure security needs of our transportation and environmental systems, and helps to revive our stagnant economy. Let us start by passing this bill.

#### CONCERNING THE SAFETY, SECURITY, AND FREEDOM OF THE PEOPLE OF TAIWAN

**HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 26, 2003*

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, 54 years ago, on June 27, 1949, President Harry Truman deployed the U.S. Navy's 7th Fleet to the Taiwan Strait to protect Taiwan against the possibility of an invasion by the People's Republic of China, PRC. Since then, we have committed ourselves to defending Taiwan, as enshrined in the Taiwan Relations Act of 1979. President Bush himself declared in 2001 that America would do whatever it takes to defend Taiwan. In light of the threat posed by the PRC's military buildup in Fukien, we must unequivocally stand by our promises to support Taiwan. America cannot afford to lose a democracy in such a volatile region—and the

people of Taiwan cannot afford to lose their safety, security, and freedom.

I rise today to call attention to an important resolution that I introduced today concerning the safety and security of Taiwan, and the right of Taiwan's 23 million people to determine their own future. In the past 2 decades, Taiwan has undergone a remarkable transformation from a one party, martial law dictatorship to a full-fledged democracy that respects human rights and human freedoms. Time and again, Taiwan has proven herself one of America's staunchest allies, recently pledging her support for continued humanitarian aid to both Afghanistan and Iraq. At the same time, however, Taiwan's democracy faces a serious military threat from the People's Republic of China. The PRC continues to regard Taiwan as a renegade province, despite the fact that it has never exercised control over the island. The PRC continues to openly entertain the use of force against Taiwan, thereby jeopardizing the stability of the entire Asian Pacific region.

A Washington Post report of June 11, 2003, reveals the PRC's plans to build up its military for the purpose of "unification with Taiwan." Already, the PRC has set up 400 short-range ballistic missiles in the province of Fukien, directly targeted at Taiwan, in addition to purchasing advanced weaponry systems, such as fighting aircrafts, submarines, and destroyers. The Washington Post reports that the PRC is accelerating its military acquisitions and notes that this buildup is "intended to create a force capable of bullying Taiwan and thwarting U.S. intervention in any conflict between China and Taiwan." In other words, the PRC is preparing to use force and coercion to take over a territory it has no legal right to, and to impose its totalitarian ideology on a people who have fought long and hard for their freedom, and who have no wish to live under Communist rule.

The resolution I introduced today is a step towards protecting a fellow democracy from the threat of Chinese aggression. The resolution calls on the Bush administration to seek from the leaders of the PRC a public and immediate renunciation of any threat or use of force against Taiwan. This includes the dismantling of the Fukien missiles and other military apparatus designed to intimidate Taiwan. The administration must let the PRC government know that America will no longer tolerate the constant harassment targeted towards the people of Taiwan. If the PRC government refuses to dismantle the missiles, the administration should then authorize the release of the Aegis system to Taiwan, enabling Taiwan to defend itself against any Chinese attack.

Mr. Speaker, these PRC missiles in Fukien province are not conducive to a peaceful resolution of current Taiwanese-Chinese relations. We can not expect the people of Taiwan to live their daily lives under such threatening and uncertain conditions. In the name of democracy, we must ensure that the future of Taiwan is determined peacefully, and with the expressed consent of the Taiwanese people. Also, I urge both my colleagues and the administration to support Taiwanese efforts to hold a referendum vote on the issue of admittance into the World Health Organization,

WHO. The people of Taiwan deserve to have their voices heard in this ongoing debate, the outcome of which will have a monumental effect on their health and well-being. As the foremost promoter of freedom and democracy

around the world, we can not in good faith deter the people of Taiwan from holding their referendum. There can be no double standard when it comes to exercising democracy.

Mr. Speaker, no group but the citizenry of Taiwan has the right to determine the future of

Taiwan. I ask that my colleagues join me in supporting democracy for the Taiwanese people, and ensuring their safety and security. Let us ensure that it will never be necessary to send the 7th Fleet to the Taiwan Strait again.